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VOLUME 15, NUMBER 96

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1998

FIFTY CENTS

Happy New Year to all, and to all a First Night

Yes, it IS the last night of the year, but they still call it First Night. The eclectic downtown, focused around America's Center, festival is designed for families to explore a wide range of diversions. Singers, dancers, musicians, clowns, mimes, jugglers and puppets will be on stage. Of course, there's the ever-present trio of the Snow Queen, Father Time and Baby New Year to entertain and delight First Night audiences. The following is a list of the people and places who are part of First Night 1999.

AMERICA'S CENTER

•Rotunda•

THE CHINESE LION DANCE

One of the highlights of being at First Night has to be catching a glimpse of the colorful Lion Dance. Performed by students from the Chinese Language School under the guidance of Tony Kwok and Charlie Cheng the dance is made up of 10 students who train extensively to be a part of the team. The Chinese Language School is a not for profit institution that is open to the public.

Rotunda 6:30 p.m.
Imagination Station 8:30 p.m.

PROFESSOR FUNK MITCH WADLEY AND LOST CHILDREN by CHRISTINE ZACHARIEWICZ

Last Children present "Awakening," a performance art piece with wearable art and a sound track. Got you attention? Good, because we're just getting started. After seeing this performance (consisting of dramatic movements and theatrical dance) you'll be taken through the forest to Grandma's house with Professor Funk Mitch Wadley and his Funkatizing bass guitar waves. Christine will be with him on percussive drums. Listen to the story my friends, and don't forget to ask the mirror...

But wait! Christine's wearable art will be displayed by a cooperative mannequin as a sculpture installation in the Rotunda.

Rotunda 7 and 9 p.m.

JOIA

More rhythm and much cooler than a marching band... JOIA is a piece percussion ensemble that will thunder its way through America's Center. Dedicated to empowering the people of the world to dance in rhythm as one, they see their music as a way to unite and heal. Later in the evening join them and thousands of others for the pre-midnight parade down to Kiener Plaza. Guaranteed to be a blow out!

Rotunda 6 p.m.

Parade 10:45 p.m.

•Imagination Station•

THE VELCRO WALL!

And now - for more fun than you ever thought possible and the opportunity to laugh unrestricted at the plight of your fellow man. First Night offers you THE VELCRO WALL!

The brave hearted are stuffed into a Velcro suit and then run onto an inflated springy surface that propels them onto the wall, where they stick in whatever awkward position they land in! It's up to them to wriggle free, providing incredibly funny photo ops along the way. If you're one of those people who has always wanted to be a fly on the wall...

Imagination Station 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

MATHEWS-DICKEY BOY'S CLUB

Many young and talented kids will perform with the "All Stars With Attitude" - the "Shining Stars" - the "Sizzling Stars" and the "Midnight Stars." A very special performance by some very special kids.

Imagination Station 7:30 p.m.

CHINESE CRAFT TABLES

Explore the delicate and beautiful world of Chinese art by creating paper fans, paper cut art, paper lanterns, Chinese calligraphy, bookmarks, dough sculptures and Chinese folk paintings. Tables set up and manned through the combined talents of the St. Louis Chinese Society, St. Louis Chinese Culture Association, St. Louis Chinese Woman's Club and the Organization of Chinese Americans.

Imagination Station 6 to 10:30 p.m.

TAPROOTS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS BOOK MAKING

A very special place where art is the language of learning. This year the Taproots staff will be on hand to teach you the art of bookmaking. You can design, create and walk away with your very own little book, or create a piece of a larger book to be compiled by the staff and put on display at area locations after Jan. 1st.

Imagination Station

THE KINCAID KARACTER PUPPETS

Die hard Saturday morning television lovers, your ship has come in! Doug Kincaid, writer, designer and performer for the Emmy Award winning television series "D.B.'s Delight" will be performing at this year's First Night. Hidden away in a hand-crafted antique puppet booth, Kincaid will present 3 comedy oriented puppet shows in the style and manner of the classic puppet and vaudeville performers of the 19th century. Shows to be performed are: "The Paul Duck Show," "Crochucie's Gator Tales" and "Punch and Judy." Nab a seat, early and feel free to talk back. These are the puppets and they have a thing or two to tell you!

Imagination Station 7, 8 and 9 p.m.

GIRLS INC. CRAFTS TABLES AND SONGS!

They sing and they create art! This group of talented kids will host several craft tables which will provide fun and go with all manner of construction materials for mask making. They will sing selections for the wandering crowds in America's Center.

Imagination Station 6 to 11 p.m. (crafts)
Fun Stage 8 p.m. (singing)

•Peace Laboratory•

LABYRINTH PROJECT

O.K. Switch gears. Our more contemplative fair-goers have unanimously requested the return of The Labyrinth. An ancient tool used for focus and meditation, it gives you the opportunity to symbolically enter 1999 with a clear head (what a concept). These are the potential paths to peaceful resolution at the center. If you feel the need to tame the beast, or if you just want to slow down for a few minutes, come on over to the welcoming gateway of The Labyrinth.

Hall 6 to 11 p.m.

•Storybook Theater•

THE MAGIC HOUSE STORYBOOK THEATER

All right you budding young actors, it's time to perform! The Storybook Theater is here to take you all the way through auditions, rehearsals and finally a performance! Guided by Kathryn Ballard and her team of theatrical professionals from The Magic House and The St. Louis Children's Museum, children will audition for roles in familiar stories, memorize lines, put on costumes and take to the stage with props in hand to perform for parents and Fairgoers. (And all this in under an hour!) A safe environment for first time performers and all the room in the world for those with experience. Colorful, memorable, happy!

Storybook Theater
6:30 to 8:15, 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

•Fun Stage•

MUNY KIDS AND MUNY TEENS

The Muny Kids will perform a holiday show with five of your favorite seasonal songs. The Muny Teens program spans 100 years of Broadway music with excerpts from 25 songs. Come see these talented ones do what they do best.

Fun Stage 6:30 p.m.
Lecture Hall 7 p.m.

THE BLACK REPERTORY THEATRE'S "TALE OF NAMBI AND KINTU"

The Saint Louis Black Repertory Theatre presents a very special, one performance only event - "The Tale of Nambi and Kintu." Take a wild trip back in time to discover the "origins" of African heritage. Music and dance bring to life this contemporary tale set in Uganda at the beginning of time. Working against all odds (and some very angry characters) the first man and woman struggle to unite, thus providing us with the "origins" of all humanity.

Fun Stage 7 p.m.

JANICE LESANE KATAMBAWA STORYTELLER

Janice is a storyteller and African Culture Specialist who likes to put her audiences to work! Not only will you get to hear great stories, but you may be one of the lucky ones who actually gets to play a character in her tales. Props and costumes are used in addition to musical instruments and songs. A hands on experience for all ages, this is a history lesson wrapped up in fun.

Fun Stage 8 and 10 p.m.

•Rock Hall•

POWERPLAY

Flashy and filled with energy, this 8 member group serves up everything - Motown, R and B, Disco, Contemporary/Progressive Jazz, Pop, Blues, Country Western - Have I made myself clear?

Rock Hall 6 p.m.

FAIRCHILD

A St. Louis original, First Night is pleased to bring the brilliance of Fairchild to our celebration. A pop band with numerous awards and prestigious engagements, they've been on the Riverfront Times favorites list for years running. But their fame is also nationally known.

With more than 15 instruments on stage this band will shake the room as they perform their original and non-original "roots rhythm and blues." A band not to be missed!

Rock Hall 7:30 p.m. on

•Crystal Palace•

JEANNETREVER

Jeanne Trevor is well known to St. Louis audiences who may remember her from The Muny, Westport Playhouse, Theatre Factory and Historyville Theatre Company. Jeanne won the St. Louis Grammy award for outstanding achievement in a commercial spot announcement and she just returned from Senegal, Africa where she represented St. Louis in an international jazz festival.

Crystal Palace 7 to 8 p.m.

ROSEMARY WATTS AND JOE DREYER

Rosemary and Joe are a husband and wife entertainment team who have performed extensively in the Saint Louis area. Specializing in Broadway and jazz tunes their style conjures up images from simpler times.

Crystal Palace 8 to 9 p.m.

THE RAT PACK UNPLUGGED DEAN CHRISTOPHER

Actor, singer, impressionist Dean Christopher sings the standards with

style. Tributes to Frank, Dino, Sammy and others. Featuring Joe Dreyer at the piano.
Crystal Palace, 9 to 10 p.m.

•The Darksides•

THE SMOKEHOUSE ALL-STAR BAND

Straight from the upscale woodshed, this group consists of guitar, upright bass, mandolin, dobro and banjo. You'll hear everything from Bill Monroe standards to Grateful Dead and "new bluegrass." Get down dogs!

The Darksides 6 p.m.

JAZZ EDGE

A dynamic jazz band in the flavor of "Big Band," back again this year to perform music from the Count Basie and Duke Ellington era. Also doing some way-cool rhythmic instrumental and vocal renditions of jazz, pop, blues, and even a few show tunes. Under the creative leadership of Prince Wells the group has an unmatched ability to transport its audiences back to the nostalgic era of Big Band swing. Add Larry Hamilton's vocals into the mix and you get a musical menu unmatched in this area.

The Darksides 7:30 to 11 p.m.

•Lecture Hall•

BETNITA'S STAR REVUE

Betnita's Star Revue will hip hop their way into your already warmed hearts with performances by Appeal, Foo Fight Hip Hop Dancers, The Stylz Dance Troupe and more!

Lecture Hall 6 p.m.

MUNY KIDS AND MUNY TEENS

The Muny Kids will perform a holiday show with five of your favorite seasonal songs. The Muny Teens program spans 100 years of Broadway music with excerpts from 25 songs. Come see these talented ones do what they do best.

Lecture Hall 7 p.m.

Fun Station 6:30 p.m.

RICKY KALMON HYPNOSIS SHOW

"Do not attempt to adjust your dial..." you have entered... The Ricky Kalmon Hypnosis Show! Ricky was with us last year and returns by overwhelming demand. This not to be missed comedy hypnosis performance uses the power of hypnotic suggestion to take the audience on an unbelievable journey, sure to bust any non-believers bubble by performance's end. Are you one of those people who thinks that you can't be hypnotized? Think again bucko. The perfect chance to experience an altered state without breaking the law.

Lecture Hall 8 p.m.

8 and 10 p.m.

DANCES OF INDIA

Dances of India is the oldest East Indian dance company in the state of Missouri, and happily for First Night, will be appearing again this year. The company annually presents colorful, rhythmic and expressive dances using unique choreography, and, for this year's First Night will present "Mumbai Melange." Set in Bombay this piece represents a synthesis of modern art and classical Indian dance. Also being performed is "Mystical Melodies" - a rhythmic interpretation of East Indian Spiritual Themes. Beauty and grace on New Year's Eve.

Lecture Hall 9 p.m.

Millennium Room 6 to 11 p.m.

•Merlins' Room•

HARVEY THE JUGGLER

Would you like to see household items go flying through the air? If so, the amazing skills and comical

banter of Harvey The Juggler will be just the ticket. Eggs, plungers, frying pans, clear boxes, beachans (empty), and of course flaming torches and sharp knives will keep you in awe, and possibly, on the run. Just kidding.

Merlins' Room 6:30 and 8 p.m.

LARRY LEVIN AS THE WIZARD OF FIRST NIGHT

The Wizard melodramatically performs miracles illustrating various themes for the New Year. These include courageously entering 1999 and creating new wealth, romance, community and magic in one's own life.

Merlins' Room
7, 9, 10:15 p.m.

SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITY

Special arrangements have been made this year to make First Night more easily accessible to those with special needs. First Night will provide a staff member to be on call at America's Center to help with orientation and give any information that may be helpful (i.e. Accessibility for bathrooms, shuttle bus transport, food venues). Janis Valdes, our First Night liaison served as President of the Board for the Missouri Council for Very Special Arts for three years. Janis will be stationed in the Rotunda at America's Center at the Button and Merchandise Table from 6 to 10:30 p.m.

PARADE

Join us for the raucous conga line down to Kiener Plaza for the mid-night festivities. The parade starts at America's Center at 10:45 p.m. Led by JOIA and YOU! Be there!

MERCANTILE TOWER

LABYRINTH PRODUCTIONS DANCE AND VIDEO

The Labyrinth Project, an artistic endeavor founded by Tim Grotrian uses video pieces produced by the group in conjunction with live dancers who will perform in front of an 8-foot video screen. This style of artistic interaction has been made popular by adventurous individuals around the country who are mixing the mediums of live theater with film/video. Terri O'Leary, the group's principle choreographer has worked for Labyrinth since 1990 and was recently recognized as the University of Missouri St. Louis' top Physical Education major. Crystal Hayes, principle dancer, has been involved in numerous dance videos with Labyrinth and is a senior at St. Joseph's Academy. An adventure for the eyes.

7 and 8:30 p.m.

SAINT LOUIS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SHORTS PROGRAM

Straight from this years critically acclaimed 7th Annual Saint Louis International Film Festival we have a sampling of film "shorts." This year's Film Festival presented over 130 films from around the world, including SLAM, DANCING AT LAUGHINASA, HAPPINESS AND GODS AND MONSTERS. This may be the last time these show again in the Saint Louis area, so stop by and take a peak.

In installations

MIND OVER TELEVISION ORESTES VALDES

Orestes is the producer and brains behind Double Helix's Mind Over Television. He is also a photographer and filmmaker, and currently serves as adjunct professor in the school of communication at Webster University.

9:30 to 10:30 p.m.

See FIRST NIGHT, Page 6A

fairWeather

Paul Goodrow, Meteorologist
KSDK-TV, NewsChannel 3 Weather Source Team

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
45 35	45 30	40 26	37 24

Granite City Journal

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Two-wheel Excitement

Durango now available in two-wheel drive
see Auto section

More than 500 toys donated at GC party

Selph thanks all those who gave

By Scott Kelly
Staff writer

Granite City residents definitely know it's better to give than to receive. At the mayor's annual Christmas Reception Monday at St. Gregory's Armenian Community Center, invited guests donated a wrapped toy destined for the waiting hands of a needy child this Christmas season.

More presents of every shape and size were collected than last year, and Mayor Ron Selph was quite pleased. Generous residents donated 502 toys.

He offered his heartfelt thanks to the community for showing their support for the needy.

The toys were moved to the employee lounge in City Hall, where they were then divided equally among Catholic Charities, Protestant Welfare, The Salvation Army, St. Elizabeth Medical Center and the Ponton Beach Lions Club. One of the gifts was a larger-than-life stuffed Sylvester the Cat, which kids will be able to play with while in St. Elizabeth Medical

Center.

As for the mayor's party itself, numerous local restaurants, individuals and organizations donated food or services.

Special thanks went out to Jill Shaw of Belleville Area College, who ran the kitchen for the evening, and the Granite City Auxiliary Police, which donated more than 200 of the toys.

Thanks also went out to Busy Bee Bakery; SEMC; Coniko's; Popeye's; USA China Buffet; Ponderosa; Tacole's; Charlie's Restaurant; Pizza World; Pizza Hut; Schnuck's Markets; Prairie Farm Dairy; Judy Knapp, Violets and Vinery; Stan Brown, Brenda Whitaker, Waste Management; Dolly Madison Bread Store; Peti's Cafe; Hardee's; Kentucky Fried Chicken; Bimble's; Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken; Brenda's Restaurant; Domino's Pizza (both Granite City stores); Papa John's Pizza; Imo's Pizza; Shop 'n Save; Jerry Ashford, Images by J. Chuck Norman, WGN Radio; Jim Monaghan; and Granite City Steel.

1999 Women of Achievement nominations open through Jan. 22

Nominations are wanted for the 1999 Women of Achievement Awards. The Women of Achievement Awards are co-sponsored by the Suburban Journals and KMOX Radio.

Ten women have been selected for the award each year since 1965. The purpose of Women of Achievement is to recognize and honor women of diverse cultures, roles and accomplishments who have demonstrated commitment to the betterment of the St. Louis region through significant voluntary contributions.

A committee of community leaders and former Women of Achievement will select the 1999 honorees, based on the following:

- A record of achievement and leadership in one or more areas of volunteer service within the St. Louis community.
- An outstanding contribution in some manner over and above her professional functions, improving the quality of life of

others within the metro St. Louis area.

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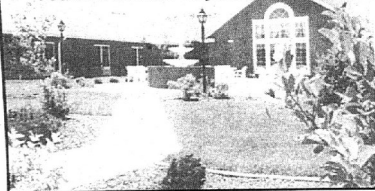
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Gold pieces donated to Salvation Army

Identities of givers anonymous, as usual; mystery coins a tradition, more or less

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

There's gold in them thar kettles!

When counting proceeds from bell-ringing Wednesday, Capt. Martin Colip of The Salvation Army of Southwestern Madison County found a \$50 gold piece that someone donated.

"It was wrapped in two one-dollar bills and stuck in the Wal-Mart kettle in Glen

Carbon," he said.

The Salvation Army usually gets a gold coin or two during its annual Christmas fund-raising. The local Salvation Army serves the Edwardsville, Highland, Collinsville and Tri-City (Granite City-Madison-Venue) areas.

"This year there have been four of them dropped in Salvation Army kettles in the St. Louis area," he said. "Two in St. Louis, one in

Belleville and one in Glen Carbon."

Although the face value is \$50, the coin is actually worth far more than that.

"They're one ounce of solid gold," Colip said.

"Last year we had someone buy one from us for \$400."

Bell-ringing will continue through New Year's Day. Colip said it is becoming more difficult to hire bell-ringers and there are not enough volunteers.

"People won't give to unmanned kettles, and you wouldn't dare put them out there anyway," he said.

"There is money to be made and not anybody out there to make it."

Last year, he said the collected almost \$25,000 during Christmas week.

Distribution of Christmas baskets and toys took place Dec. 21 and 22.

Planned Collinsville Center papal mass broadcast may get canceled

By Paul Brinkmann
Staff writer

A lack of interest may force the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville to cancel a free program planned around Pope John Paul II's visit to St. Louis.

The convention center is offering an uninterrupted live-feed broadcast of the papal Mass in the Trans World Dome at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27.

The center had hoped that local parishes would sing or speak during a program tentatively titled "Festival of Faith." A gift shop selling official papal visit merchandise was also planned.

So far, few people have expressed interest.

"One of our goals was to provide an opportunity for people to come together as a

community," said Cindy Warke, director of the center.

"We thought there was a demand there. The lack of interest is pretty shocking."

Warke said the broadcast and program will be canceled unless more interest is shown by Jan. 4 — the cutoff date to reserve the broadcast.

The pope's Mass is expected to draw up to 100,000 people to the Dome. A youth rally and live broadcast has also been planned at Kiel Center during the Mass.

Warke said Gateway Convention Center was going to pay about \$9,000 for the live feed and equipment. In exchange, the center thought the event would attract thousands and show off the facility. The convention center even thought a lottery system would be necessary to distribute tickets.

Invitations to participate in

the lottery were mailed to about 250 parishes in Madison and St. Clair counties. Warke said only a few have been

returned.

"We made a few calls and people have just said, 'Well, why would I want to watch?'"



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Clinical Research Associates of Edwardsville urgently needs volunteers age 18 and over with Bipolar disorder who are currently depressed or manic to participate in a research study comparing an investigational drug with lithium and placebo.

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- Mania: • Elevated, expansive or irritable mood • Inflated self-esteem, grandiosity • Decreased need for sleep • Excessive or pressured speech • Racing Thoughts • Increased activity, agitation • Bad judgment

Suitable volunteers will receive a study related medical and psychiatric evaluation and study drug from a psychiatrist free of charge. If you or someone you know would like to be considered for a study please call (618) 659-0292.

Clinical Research Associates of Edwardsville
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Edwardsville, Illinois 62025 (618) 659-0292

Lynn A. Cunningham, M.D.
Director of Clinical Research



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State gives OK for transfer center

Edwardsville building slated to open by summer

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

The state has given its approval for \$2.8 million in bids for the Madison County Transit District's Edwardsville Transfer Center.

MCT Managing Director Jerry Kane said IDOT has concurred in the awarding of bids, which were approved by the District's board in November.

The total package included

three separate bids: \$2.4 million for the general construction bid by R.G. Ross Construction Inc., St. Louis; \$69,875 for the mechanical bid by Kane Mechanical, Wood River; and \$882,000 for electrical work by Central Electric, Alton.

All the accepted bids were below the original estimate. The transfer center—located at the intersection of Hillsboro and Main in Edwardsville—is one of

several transit hubs planned for the county and should be completed by next summer.

Kane said he expected construction to begin "promptly," but added that the recent turn in the weather could create some delays.

In other business, the MCT Board approved the acceptance of this year's audit. The audit, performed by Scheffel & Co., showed revenues of \$27.3 million and expenditures of \$32.4 million, including work on the new building complex in Pontoon Beach and the Edwardsville Transfer Center.

According to the audit, the only "problem" area in the district's financial situation was the timing of some quarterly forms required by state law. State statutes say the forms must be filed within 30 days of the end of the quarter, but because the Bi-State Development Agency does not provide the information soon enough, the forms are always filed late.

Kane said IDOT is aware of the problem and it really doesn't create any problems.

MCT gives officials tour of facility

\$8M building houses offices, maintenance

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

The Madison County Transit District opened an \$8 million Christmas present for board members and others who were given a tour of the newly-completed \$8 million facility in Pontoon Beach.

The tour followed the monthly meeting of the MCT Board, which was also held in the new building. The building, which includes office and bus maintenance space, is designed to handle the operation of the district's fixed-route buses.

That includes dispatch, the road supervisors, the many drivers that we have and all the functions of the maintenance department," said MCT Managing Director Jerry Kane.

The new building also houses the district's computer operations and the RideFinders program and Kane said they will attempt to move the accounting

department sometime in the future. Most of the building is taken up by the maintenance department.

Kane said that if necessary, the district's mechanics could completely rebuild a bus, although it is probably not cost-effective. Included in the maintenance department is a body shop and painting room.

Since taking over the county's large bus routes from the Bi-State Development Agency beginning last year, Kane said one problem they had was finding an auto body or paint shop that had a building big enough to handle one of the larger buses.

"We had about a half-dozen vehicles waiting to go through that body shop when it opened," he said. The facility includes separate fueling and washing facilities, which were not part of the tour because of the weather.

The district's door-to-door operations will still be run out of the old MCT building across the road.

Since its beginning in the mid-1980s, the district has grown from the small door-to-door and van pool service to providing all the bus services throughout most of Madison County.

In the process, the district outgrew the old building very quickly.

"One of our worst talents is to predict our growth," said Kane. "This is the first time we've had some space that wasn't being used."

The total cost of the facility was about \$8 million, which was "right on target," Kane said. The new facility will be able to serve the district's needs for the foreseeable future.

"We currently have an excellent facility to serve the needs of the county residents," he said. "What we have here will take care of us for years and years to come."

Clean-Up Tips

from the experts at

FRANK'S
NURSERY & CRAFTS

Where Beautiful Things Begin

Now that all the merry-making of the season is winding down, it's time to start thinking about getting the house back to normal. Here are a few tips to help everything go smoother.

Removing the lights from the tree with care is a must. This is true with all lights, indoors and out alike. Place each string in a suitable box or wrap them with newspaper so they'll stay separated. When it comes time to bring them back out next year, you'll be glad you did.

A great deal of care must be taken with glass ornaments, since they break easily. A beautiful heirloom ornament can be reduced to shreds from careless handling, not to mention the danger of the particles being stepped on. Their original box is the best place to store 'em, but if the box has somehow managed to disappear, they can be individually wrapped with newspaper or some other packing material. The air-filled "bubble" type material is excellent, but try to provide a little extra for the kids to snap and pop or you won't have any left for ornaments!

Live Trees
Make sure everything has been removed from the tree before taking it down. A small ornament or two can easily be hidden amidst the greenery and end up lost forever.

If you purchased a tree removal bag, you have it made. Slide the bag up and over the tree. Before laying the tree on its side, remember that the stand should be full of water, so get ready for spillage. Remove the tree stand and drag the tree away. With the bag, you should have few, if any, needles lying around.

If you don't have a tree removal bag, follow the same procedure as above, but try to carry the tree as much as possible instead of dragging it. Trunk end first through doorways eliminates a lot of giggles from the kids.

All that's left for you to do is vacuum up the needles, and you should do it as soon as possible, especially if you tend to walk around without shoes. Dried-out tree needles,

track pin... all equally miserable to step on.

Now, what do you do with the tree? Here are a few suggestions.

You may want to chip the branches and trunk for a great flower and garden mulch. If you have a recycling center nearby, they may be able to refer you to someone who can turn the tree into mulch.

Place the tree standing upright in your back yard. If it won't come back to life, but it will be a welcome haven for birds. String popcorn on the tree or "care-decorate" with sweet bells, orange slices, bread and bird food. You'll be sure of sweet sounds from the birds as long as the tree holds out.

Strip branch tips and needles from the tree and use to create fragrant sachets and potpourri.

Your community probably has made its policy concerning Christmas trees known, i.e., if and when they can be picked up at curbside, taken to a recycling center, etc. Make sure you know all the facts before dragging it out to the curb.

Lifelike Trees
Not much space is devoted to lifelike tree removal because there's not much to it. If you have to remove the branches, make sure you keep each row's branches separate or it'll turn into a chore next year. Pack it and the stand in its box (yes, it will fit) or any suitable container and stash it where it's out of the way. Now it's time to plan on the New Year's Eve festivities!

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No injuries in Madison fire

An early-morning fire, apparently started when someone was smoking in bed, forced the evacuation of an apartment building in Madison Wednesday.

The fire was mostly confined to a mattress and box springs in an upper floor apartment at 1234 Madison Ave.

According to reports, the police department received a 911 call about a building on fire at about 1:20 a.m. Wednesday.

Police arriving first at the scene evacuated residents from the building, then the fire department extinguished the blaze.

— Scott Cousins

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Milestones

Mallory Justine Smith celebrates a birthday on Dec. 27.
Ricki McIntosh celebrates a birthday on Dec. 27.
Wallace V. Weidner celebrates a birthday on Dec. 28.
Loren Sulivester Wilhilly celebrates a birthday on Dec. 28.
Leslie McElroy celebrates a birthday on Dec. 28.
Alice Parks celebrates a birthday on Dec. 28.
Barbara Bogovich celebrates a birthday on Dec. 28.
William "Bill" Legens celebrates a birthday on Dec. 28.
Sylvia Townsend celebrates a birthday on Dec. 29.
Ruth (Pinnon) Smith celebrates a birthday on Dec. 29.
Theresa "Crickie" Pashagdag celebrates a birthday on Dec. 29.
Thelma Morelein celebrates a birthday on Dec. 29.
Jack and Betty Podner celebrate their wedding anniversary Dec. 29.
Nathan Padgett celebrates a birthday on Dec. 30.
Minnie Kamacho celebrates a birthday on Dec. 31.

Irene Rainwater celebrates a birthday on Dec. 31.
Jessica Dawn Hill celebrates a birthday on Jan. 1.
Jim Reed celebrates a birthday on Jan. 1.
Katharine Nicole Anderson celebrates a birthday, on Jan. 1.
Sarah Jessica McWhorter celebrates a birthday on Jan. 2.
Gene Koehler celebrates a birthday on Jan. 2.
Lori D. O'Bear celebrates a birthday on Jan. 2.
Albert and Naomi Wells celebrate their wedding anniversary on Jan. 2.
Carol and Dennis Wells celebrate their wedding anniversary on Jan. 2.
Rory and Denise Caldwell celebrate their wedding anniversary on Jan. 2.
Rich and Naomi Siedhoff celebrate their wedding anniversary on Jan. 2.

To submit an item to Milestones or delete an entry, send a postcard to "Milestones," Granite City Journal, 1215 Delmar Ave., Granite City, IL 62040.

Coleman murder verdict overturned

The conviction of one of three men convicted in the 1993 murder of five people in Eagle Park Acres was overturned by a state appellate court and a new trial was ordered.

Michael Coleman Jr., 26, of Venice, was convicted on five counts of first-degree murder stemming from what prosecutors said was a drug deal gone bad in November 1993 in the unincorporated area near Madison.

He was given a life sentence for the slayings.

Madison County passes 3,000 felony mark for 1998

By Dennis Grubaugh
Staff writer

Deloris J. Williams has earned a dubious distinction. Her name is on the 3,000th felony charge filed in Madison County in 1998.

The county surpassed that total Tuesday for the first time in its history.

The 41-year-old Williams, of East St. Louis, is accused of stealing a generator in October

from the A-1 Rental Store in Collinsville.

State's Attorney Bill Haine said, citing figures of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. "In other urban counties outside of Cook County, it increased only 48 percent."

Drug arrests and felony

increased 149 percent," Haine said, citing figures of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. "In other urban counties outside of Cook County, it increased only 48 percent."

retail theft account for much of the burgeoning caseload in recent years, he said.

Haine noted that the conviction rate has also shot up, tripling from 1988 to 1995, according to the state figures.

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Obituaries

Walter Dix
WALTER J. DIX, 59, of Granite City died Sunday, Dec. 20, 1998, at Missouri Baptist Hospital in St. Louis.



Mr. Dix was born Nov. 6, 1939, in Muse, Pa. He was a retired truck driver for Malone Trucking and was in the Coast Guard. Survivors include his daughter, Melissa Dix of Granite City.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Ida Dix. Services were held Wednesday, Dec. 23, at Irwin Chapel in Granite City. Burial was at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association. **Shirley Frisk**
SHIRLEY J. (UZUNOFF) FRISK, 70, of Denver, formerly of Granite City, died at St. Joseph Hospital in Denver.

Mrs. Frisk was born Aug. 20, 1928, in Granite City. She was a homemaker and had been a waitress in this area. Survivors include her daughter, Carol Westrum of Hawthorn, Calif.; one son, Louis Arnold of Granite City; one brother, John Uzunoff of Granite City; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Julia Uzunoff. A memorial service will be held at 8:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, 1999, at Pontoon Beach Church of Christ, 4038 Pontoon Road, Pontoon Beach.

Memorials may be made to the Pontoon Beach Church of Christ or to a charity of donor's choice. **Lillie A. (Collier) Branson Maness**
LILLIE A. (COLLIER) BRANSON MANESS, 68, of Granite City, died Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1998, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville.

Mrs. Maness was born Dec. 21, 1930, in Owensville, Mo. She was a WMU and preschool worker for the Missouri Baptist Convention for many years and was a member of Suburban Baptist Church. Survivors include her husband, Hubert "Huba" Maness; three sons, Larry Maness of Marion, Ky., Thomas Maness of Marianna, Fla., and Michael Maness of Sherwood, Ark.; two daughters, Judith "Jude" Zankus of Granite City and Janet Zankus of Owensville, Mo.

Hubert "Huba" Maness; three sons, Larry Maness of Marion, Ky., Thomas Maness of Marianna, Fla., and Michael Maness of Sherwood, Ark.; two daughters, Judith "Jude" Zankus of Granite City and Janet Howard of Florissant, Mo.; one brother, Everett Collier of Cincinnati; one sister, Viola "Vi" Miller of Owensville, Mo.; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, the Rev. Frank Branson; her parents, Oscar and Mary "Mollie" (Sauders) Collier; three daughters, Betty Porter, Leslie Collier, and Mary Cunningham; and one son, Oscar Collier.

Local services were held Saturday, Dec. 26, at Irwin Chapel in Granite City, with the Rev. Ron Zankus officiating. Visitation will be 5 to 9 p.m. today, Sunday, Dec. 27, at Gottenstroter Funeral Home, 108 South 2nd St., Owensville, Mo. Services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 28, at Gottenstroter Funeral Home in Owensville, Mo. Burial will be in Countryside Memorial Gardens in Owensville, Mo.

Memorials may be made to Suburban Baptist Church or the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Vincent Schmidt
VINCENT SCHMIDT, 70, of Highland, formerly of O'Fallon, died Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1998, at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Belleville.

He was born April 27, 1928, in O'Fallon. Mr. Schmidt was a member of O'Fallon United Church of Christ. He was retired from McDonnell Douglas as a technical writer. He was a Chief Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy, having served during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia Schmidt (Mayhew) of Highland; one daughter, Lisa Schmidt of Highland; two sisters, Marie Truttman of Shiloh and Arvel Bauer of Trenton; and five brothers, Edwin, Walter and Donald Schmidt, all of O'Fallon, Charles Schmidt of Nashville and Harold Schmidt of Granite City.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Mary (Pongas) Schmidt; one sister, Genevieve Bazik; and two brothers in infancy, LeRoy and William Schmidt. Services were held Saturday, Dec. 26, at Schildknecht Funeral Home in O'Fallon, with the Rev. Martha Thierheimer officiating. Burial was in O'Fallon City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to O'Fallon United Church of Christ.

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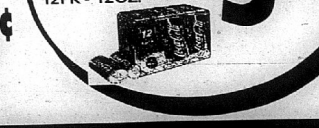
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Opinions



Sound Off
Speak your mind, 618/277-9520

Guest Column Crank about to invade Metro-East New state laws will deal with dangerous drug

By Rep. Tom Holbrook

Crank, or crystal methamphetamine, is a drug with a fast-growing following. The drug has spread rapidly from the West Coast into rural Missouri and Iowa and is now making its appearance in Southern Illinois and the Metro-East area. Law enforcement officers in Illinois say that Missouri and Iowa have both seen a large increase in crystal meth arrests and suspect it is only a matter of time before Illinois will face a similar problem. Authorities say that the drug poses very serious health and safety risks. The physical reaction to crank — otherwise known as ice, crystal meth, glass, hot ice, super ice and LA crystal, among other names — is similar to that experienced from cocaine use, but the high lasts much longer. One of the biggest problems for law enforcement is that users often can be very violent. An additional concern is that the ingredients used to produce the street form of the drug are cheap, including over-the-counter cold medicines, so it also costs less than cocaine. Its relative affordability and extended high makes the drug attractive to drug users and explains its rapidly growing popularity. Some officers contend that the drug may become the crack cocaine of the new generation. In an effort to stem the growing crystal meth problem, I personally sponsored two pieces of legislation last year to clean methamphetamine off our streets. Both bills passed the General Assembly and were signed into law by Gov. Jim Edgar. One of the new laws creates tougher penalties for manufacturers, users and dealers of crystal meth. The new penalties will be very similar to those used for cocaine-related offenses, and are intended to keep crystal meth offenders behind bars for a longer stay. For example, possession of 199 grams or less is currently a Class 4 felony, punishable by one to three years in jail. Under the new law, possession of the same amount will be a Class 1 felony, punishable by six to 30 years in jail. The other new law makes it illegal to possess some of the pre-cursors, or ingredients, used to manufacture the drug. The law provides that it can be considered a Class 4 felony for a person to possess any substance with the intent to use it to manufacture any illegal drug. The intent of this law is to offer law enforcement officials a tool to bring down more meth labs, preventing the drug from ever getting onto our streets. As always, it is an honor to serve you as your state representative. If you ever have any questions about any state issues, please call me at my district offices at 394-2211 in St. Clair County or 451-0260 in Madison County, or you can e-mail me at tholbrook@house.state.il.us.

Tom Holbrook is an Illinois state representative from Madison County.

Sound Off!

To call the Journal "Sound Off!" line, dial 277-9522 and leave your message. We won't print personal attacks or unfair criticism of individuals or businesses. Please keep your comments brief and reasonable.

A burning issue

I suggest we at least be allowed to burn dry leaves, sticks, limbs, brush, etc., one day a month. What are we supposed to do with all the debris?

Had it with hearings

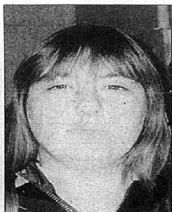
I am so disgusted with the way the Republicans are treating our election. They act like we didn't vote for a president. Ever since the president has gotten in office, and even before, they started picking on him. Big tobacco companies are paying for it. I'm sure of that, because he is the first president we've ever had to go after them and try to show the country what's really happening. All these so-called preachers and this weird bunch of Republicans are trying to throw him out of office. We gave them a message when we had the last election. I guess we'll have to have another one and show them what we mean. Power goes to their heads. There isn't a one in Congress that hasn't done the same thing or worse than the president's done, they just didn't get caught.

Voice Box

What was your reaction to the impeachment of President Clinton?



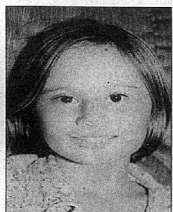
Victoria Keller
Granite City



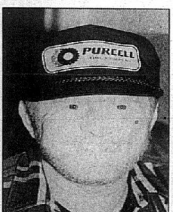
Tina Turner, 25
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Joseph Coleman, 55
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Kryslyn Branham, 10
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Ed Branham, 39
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Photos and interviews by Shirley Valencia
Interviewed in Granite City

ILLINOIS' GOOD GOVERNMENT
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Common Cause director confounds 'em all

Howard would rather get legislation passed than put on show

One of the most unusual good government activists to ever work under the Statehouse dome is still confounding the people who would presumably be his close allies.

Jim Howard is the executive director of Illinois Common Cause. He is unorthodox for a good government lobbyist — or "goo-goo" — because he is willing to do whatever it takes to actually pass legislation, up to and including throwing his "natural" allies overboard. Goo-goos aren't the most beloved species in Springfield. Its very nature to make trouble for the status quo don't appreciate it when someone tries to change their cozy rules.

The goo-goos make it tougher on themselves because they tend to hold angry press conferences, stage publicity stunts and organize boisterous Springfield rallies. Those are all important ways of putting pressure on the General Assembly, but the tactics don't pass the bills in and of themselves.

Instead, they usually alienate legislators. The unofficial rule for anyone lobbying in Springfield is to always show respect for legislators. They get downright angry so you don't. Goo-goos often break that rule.

Common Cause's Howard has tried to use the prevailing animosity towards the goo-goos to his advantage and turn some lemons into lemonade. Howard has tried to set himself and his organization



Rich Miller

apart from the other good government groups in the state. He has openly vented his disdain for organizations that, in his opinion, care more for ranting and raving at press conferences than passing legislation.

Howard even actively lobbied the Senate against a bill that had already passed the House and was supported by a brother reform group, in part to demonstrate his independence to the Senate Republicans.

The Senate Republicans have never been friends of reform. Senate President Pate Phillip has always had that Reaganesque quality of sharply criticizing politicians and the political culture while simultaneously taking advantage of every loophole to raise as much money and project as much power as possible.

The conservative Phillip also doesn't care for the liberal politics of most reform activists and the feeling has

been mutual. For years, Phillip has been reviled by reformers, even though it was possible to lobby him with an appeal to his "everyman" disdain for dirty politics.

No reform bill can possibly pass without Senate President Phillip's cooperation, so Howard made it a priority to somehow get in Pate's good graces. Having spent a good portion of his life in Pate's DuPage County helped because it gave the two something in common. Demonstrating his independence from and even disdain for some of his good government colleagues scored several points.

This, of course, angered the other good government groups, but that only helped Howard's case with Pate Phillip and the rest of the insiders. After all, the reasoning went, if the goo-goos hated him, he couldn't be all bad.

When the General Assembly finally passed campaign reform last spring, Howard was one of the few people allowed to sit at the bargaining table.

And now a new spring session is almost upon us, and Howard is very worried that

the other goo-goos are going to adopt his legislative agenda.

That may sound strange, but Howard is concerned that they could make it more difficult to pass his bills by alienating the people he has so carefully cultivated.

This sort of talk exasperates the other good government types. For example, Cindy Canary, who runs the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform, thinks coordination next spring. Canary said Howard risks creating a climate of "divide and conquer" if he doesn't stick with the rest of the goo-goos.

But Howard has apparently convinced himself he can hold his own course and avoid too much cooperation with his would-be goo-goo allies.

If he's right, they'll despise him. If he's right, they'll probably do their best to destroy him.

Either way, he's facing a difficult spring. *Rich Miller is an independent journalist who covers government issues for the Illinois Press Association.*

Letters to the editor policy

The Granite City Journal encourages its readership to voice their opinions on current issues public interest by writing a letter to the editor.

Letters must be no more than 350 words and include your name and city.

Also include your telephone number, which will be used to confirm authorship and will not be printed.

Letters may be edited for clarity and space limitations. We will attempt to publish letters in the order we receive them. We will not publish any letter we deem libelous or defamatory. We also reserve the right to edit letters for space or clarity.

Send your letters to Granite City Journal, 1815 Delmar, Granite City, Ill., 62040, or to Journals of Southern Illinois, 219 N. Illinois, Belleville, Ill. 62220. Letters may also be faxed to 277-7018 or 876-4240.

Granite City Journal

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SUNDAY
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Horoscope

SUNDAY, DEC. 27
 Choices are more varied and exciting than many thought possible. New ideas spark other ideas, creating an intellectual momentum that can't be stopped. So don't spend the last few days of 1998 on the couch. The Taurus moon and Capricorn sun are willful influences, teaching us to "just do it!"

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY
 (December 27). Gifts, proposals and emotional confessions come in February. Current jobs are expanded, allowing you an opportunity to learn while you are paid. Consider asking for more authority in April. Start new business or investment ventures this summer with a friend—not your marriage partner! Commitments come in March and July. Ideal lovers now are Aries and Sagittarians.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). By helping others put aside their differences, you gain power at work or in family. Traveling alone allows you to get a better perspective on your home life. If a commitment doesn't come, walk away, and try something new.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Take your time in answering a friend's request. A person standing in your way grows tired of the fight. Your best signs for new love are Cancer and Pisces. An old love decides he or she can't live without you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Energy may come in spurts—pace yourself well. Some in authority who were previously unappreciative may suddenly see your true worth. Be assertive. Compliments to others lead to unexpected benefits.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Hide your doubts about a new romance, wait and see. Don't hold back if you find yourself intensely attracted to someone. New solutions may be found in a moment of solitude. Quick negotiations are indicated.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The possibility of a long-distance romance gets stronger. Rest may be the only thing that will get rid of a nagging cold. You are so focused on one ambition, you may not even need to make New Year's resolutions.

Joyce Jillson
 Your personal horoscope, call 1-900-420-2787
 99¢ per min touch-tone and 1-900-407-3001
 Touch-tone and rotary \$2.99 per min

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). An important decision will depend on long-range plans you've already made. A certain friend influences you in a negative way—stand up for your beliefs. Be creative with ways to expand relationships within your industry.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People you usually rely on may not be available, so trust your own instincts. A crisis may produce new and better alliances. Prospects for love become brighter. Key people in your life who had been out of touch show up again.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A collaboration not to your liking may be necessary. Long-range prospects become clearer. You don't have to do everything yourself. A family excursion goes swimmingly. Health problems may be resolved.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Indulge spontaneity, especially in opportunities for love. Get your thoughts in order for an upcoming project. Someone you would usually avoid may merit your attention. Concentrate on what is meant rather than what is said.

NEW YEAR'S 99¢ SALE

- BUTT CUT COUNTRY RIBS..... 99¢ LB.
- 10 LB BAG GROUND BEEF..... 99¢ LB.
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- 1/4 LOIN PORK CHOPS..... 99¢ LB.
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- GRADE "A" CHICKEN WINGS..... 99¢ LB.
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- SLICED SMOKE JOWL..... 99¢ LB.
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- CHICKEN LIVER & CHICKEN GIZZARDS..... 99¢ LB.

WHOLE OR 1/2 PORK LOINS 99¢ LB.
 SLICED FREE INTO PORK CHOPS

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 3 1/2 LB SQUARE RIBS

STEAK SPECIAL N.Y. STRIP \$3.99 LB.

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 DECEMBER 27TH THRU JANUARY 2ND
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LEROY'S

- JAY'S POTATO CHIPS..... \$1.79 13.5 OZ BAG
- BEST YET CAN TOMATOES..... 4/\$9.99 13 OZ CANS
- KRAFT MAYONNAISE..... \$1.89 32 OZ JAR
- PEPSI COLA..... \$4.49 24 PK CUBE
- BEST YET OLIVES..... 79¢ 5.78 OZ JAR
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BUSH'S BLACK EYE PEAS 4/\$9.99 15.5 OZ CANS

This Weeks Price Breakers

- BUNNY BREAD..... 29¢ 1 LB LOAF
- RICH TEX SHORTENING..... 79¢ 41 OZ CAN
- BEST YET SPAGHETTI..... 19¢ 14 OZ PKG
- BOUNTY PAPER TOWEL..... 39¢ SINGLE ROLL

PRODUCE

- NO. 1 GREEN CABBAGE..... 25¢ LB.
- GOLDEN RIP BANANAS..... 33¢ LB.
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DAIRY & FROZEN

- PRAIRIE FARMS ORANGE JUICE..... 99¢ 1/2 GAL
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- TOTINOS PIZZA OR PIZZA ROLLS..... 89¢ 7 TO 14.9
- RAGEL OR DYNABITES..... \$3.00 2 FOR

Movie Schedule

Film timetable for Sunday, Dec. 27. For times on other days or to confirm these times, check local theaters.

CARMINE PETITE
 1-70 and Hwy. 157, Collinsville, Ill. 344-1708
 Star Trek (PG) 1:40, 4:50, 7:50, 9:20
 Mighty Joe Young (PG) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50
 Jack Frost (PG) 12:45, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:25
 Prince of Egypt (PG) 12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

COTTONWOOD EDWARDSVILLE CINEMA
 Edwardsville, Ill., 656-6380
 The Waterboy (PG-13) 2:30, 7:00, 9:15
 Meet Joe Black (PG-13) 2:00, 7:15
 Babe (G) 2:15, 6:45, 9:00

NAMEOKI CINEMA
 30 Nameoki Village, 877-6630
 Enemy Of The State (R) 2:00, 7:00, 9:45
 The Rugrats Movie (G) 2:15, 6:45, 9:45

SHOWCASE 12 EDWARDSVILLE
 6633 Center Grove Rd., 659-7469

Star Trek (PG) 2:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10
 Mighty Joe Young (PG) 12:50, 3:50, 6:20, 9:15
 The Rugrats Movie (G) 12:30, 2:50, 4:50
 Psycho (R) 7:50, 10:00
 Patch Adams (PG-13) 1:10, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
 Enemy Of The State (R) 1:40, 5:30, 8:10
 Stepmom (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30
 You've Got Mail (PG) 12:40, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00
 You've Got Mail (PG) 1:50, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15
 A Bug's Life (G) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:25
 The Faculty (R) 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:05
 Prince Of Egypt (PG) 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:40, 9:00
 Jack Frost (PG) 12:20, 2:35, 4:45

Now Open The Fantasy Shop
 Comics, D.C., Marvel, Darkhorse, Image & Other
 Star Wars & Star Trek
 Role Playing Games
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 Mah Jong
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 & Other card games
 Complete selection of games & comics!
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 1st Receive 2nd Off With Purchase Of 12, Or More
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 7083 Chippewa (Next to Schmucks) (314) 642-2188 29 Arnold Park Mall (Next to Schmucks) (314) 282-9864
 Beef, Chicken, Pork, Salad, Plenty of Desserts, BBQ's, Crab Legs, Chinese, Italian, Mexican & More...

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 JOIN US "NEW YEARS DAY" FOR
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 MONDAY...\$1.00 LONG NECKS
 TUESDAY...\$1.00 MILLER PRODUCTS
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 FRIDAY...\$1.00 MUGS
 SATURDAY...\$1.50 SCHNAPPS
 SUNDAY...\$3.50 PITCHERS
 4225 OLD ALTON ROAD (phone) 877-4250

Family Restaurant
 "Good Home Cookin'"
"ALL YOU CAN EAT" SPECIALS
 5 Nights A Week Monday Thru Fri. Starting At 5:00
 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27
 Turkey & Dressing.....\$5.50
 MONDAY, DECEMBER 28
 Meatloaf.....\$4.50/"All You Can Eat Pancakes or Biscuits-n-Gravy".....\$4.50
 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
 Swiss Steak.....\$4.50/"All You Can Eat Spaghetti".....\$4.50
 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30
 Chicken Club.....\$4.50/"All You Can Eat Shrimp".....\$5.50
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
 Ham & Bean's w/ corn bread.....\$4.50/"All You Can Eat Chicken".....\$5.50
 2 pc. Fish w/ Mac & Cheese.....\$4.50/"All You Can Eat Fish".....\$5.50
 FRIDAY, JANUARY 1
 10 oz. T-Bone.....\$7.25
 SATURDAY, JANUARY 2
 OPEN 8 A.M.-10 P.M. DAILY - CARRY OUT AVAILABLE - PHONE 931-5210

Petite 4
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 DAILY MATINEES NIGHTLY
 1:30 4:15 7:05 9:40

PRINCE OF EGYPT
 RATED PG
 DAILY MATINEES NIGHTLY
 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15

JACK FROST
 Starring Michael Keaton and Kelly Preston
 DAILY MATINEES NIGHTLY
 12:45 2:50 5:00 7:10 9:25

STAR TREK INSURRECTION
 DAILY MATINEES NIGHTLY
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PRICES: \$4.00 For adults
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 Free Refills on All Large Sizes!

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First Night

Continued from Page 1A

HATSPUT GALLERY

First Night is pleased to be able to use Hatsput Gallery for this year's festival. Sheryl Johnson, gallery owner, is a visual artist and local poet who's work has appeared in Drumvoices and Break Word with the World. Her gallery features visual art by local African American artists and live performances by writers and jazz musicians. On display during First Night will be Adella Parker's "River of My Ancestor's Faces." Marcus Maat, co-author of "Visible Glory: Million Man March" will be reading his own work. 6 to 11 p.m.

FIRST NIGHT'S
MIDNIGHT BAND

BELLE STARR
Our midnight band, calling the same same and venge of their namesake Belle Starr (an 1860s outlaw from Missouri) is a rock 'n' roll, country folk blues band with an occasional wicked twist. First formed years ago as The Stone Canars, Belle Starr now plays a roots-based American rock and pop and was just this month named Best Country Band by the Riverfront Times.

Kip Loui, band founder, principle male singer and band songwriter has created a sound many bands now claim, that of "grainbelt rock." Spend the last hour of 1998 with an outland and 207000 of her closest friends.
Kiener Plaza Stage, 11 p.m. to midnight.

STREET PERFORMERS

BRENT LOEWENSTEIN
As if by magic, Brent returns to First Night to once again dazzle and amaze while he winds his way through the teeming throngs. Watch carefully! The hand is quicker than the eye...

ROBLEIGH MAJORS
Does Father Time really look like Robleigh Majors? Who cares! It's New Year's Eve and somebody has to do it! Robleigh doesn't mind, having spent a good deal of his past as a freelance clown and mime. (He's also a darn good juggler, despite his advanced age.)

SANDRA LAROCHE
Does the Snow Queen really look like Sandra LaRoche? Who cares! A Queen's a Queen, and she is here to spread her royal presence all over the place. Warning: she

can grant wishes... be careful what you ask for...

JOE MOYNIHAN
Does Baby New Year really look like - Oh forget it. If Joe is willing to put on the diaper, we're willing to let him wear it. In his other life, Joe is a professional character actor with more than a few screen credits to his name. Our symbolic offering for the fresh start of a brand new year.

KARL KINDT
TIE FIRST KNIGHT
What? (hey look!) We have a real knight! And that's 82 pounds of real hand forged steel armor he's wearing despite the freezing temperatures. Our Knight will come with good manners and a humble heart, strolling the streets and sharing stories of chivalrous deeds. His oath is to serve every man as best he may, so don't be surprised if you experience random acts of kindness throughout the night. Welcome, Good Knight! May your armor be frost-free. Now, about that dragon in America's

Center...

TIM ANGELO
STREET MIMIC
Tim can't talk right now, but he's here and he'll be keeping the age-old tradition of pantomime alive and well on the streets of St. Louis. He'll give you, you can follow him. Give him some suggestions. You never know what might appear before your very eyes... or is it really there?

THE SHORT ATTENTION
SPAN CIRCUS
Are you still with me? OK. Roaming the streets, juggling, romping, cavorting. Hey, hey, over here... don't go yet. Engaging, to the point and funny, funny, oops. They're gone. (Briefly appearing on a street corner near you.)

RICK LANG
COMPOSER
Is our First Night ballad composer? You happen to catch a few bars of his song entitled "First Night," you may feel compelled to hug the nearest stranger. In his words,

he wanted "a musical piece focusing on community, family, hope, renewal, lifting the human spirit..." Thanks for the reminder Rick. To be played at many First Night venues when you least expect it.

ART CITY AT CITY MUSEUM
An absolute hub of creativity, Art City houses fiber artists, potters, hatmakers, face painters and more! Pass through the entrance to this amazing world and put yourself to work!

RECYCLED ART PROGRAM
Lloyd Harvey's recycled art program "When You Wish Upon A Star" lets you add your own star to the night sky for New Year's Eve. Cut your star out of recycled materials and fix it up with silver and gold. Yours to take home as a souvenir of the last year of the century.

STREET LIGHTS
Those gaily-decorated lights you see out front of America's Center are a part of our first annual streetlighting decorating contest! The winner

gets \$1000.00... How about joining in next year?

STREET GAMES
Don't tell mom, but we left a few of our toys lying out in the streets... So go ahead... use them! Giant balls you can kick around, an oversized ring toss for oversized kids, and enough sidewalk chalk to create a First Night Picasso. Who knows, your work might be spotted by a roaming talent scout. Check along Washington and the streets close to America's Center.

CONSULTANT
JERI PETERSON
Owner and president of Jeri Peterson Production is providing services in arts administration, marketing, special event productions and grant writing. Jeri also is the co-producer of "A Millennium Journey." In St. Louis, Jeri has worked with Stages, St. Louis Black Repertory Company, Vaughn Culture Center and St. Louis Science Center.

It's resolution time

Memorial has programs to help you make 1999 a healthy new year!

Project Trim

If your resolution is to change your eating habits and lose weight, then this class is for you. Project Trim, an eight-week weight loss program developed by the St. Louis Dietetic Association, uses behavior modification with a specific plan and goal for each participant. An exercise program also is available.

The class begins January 7, at 6:30 p.m. and is held in Memorial's auditorium.

\$50 for class only
\$80 class with exercise component

Freedom from
Smoking Self Help Plus

The American Lung Association's Freedom from Smoking Self Help Plus class can help you kick the habit in 1999. Taught by a respiratory therapist from Memorial, this three session program helps motivate the participant to quit and gives them coping tips so they can stay smoke free.

There is no charge for this class which begins January 5. Classes are held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the West Dining Room.

For more information or to register for these programs, call Memorial's Community Relations Department at (618) 257-5649.



MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
4500 Memorial Drive
Belleville, Illinois 62226

Rejoice in the LORD Always

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Bethel Chapel
Pentecostal Church
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Worship.....11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night.....7:00 p.m.
Wed & Sat.....7:30 p.m.
25th & Ohio
Granite City
Phone: 877-1618

GLENVIEW ASSEMBLY
OF GOD
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Morn Worship.....10:45 a.m.
Eve Worship.....6:00 p.m.
Wed Services.....7:00 p.m.
3000 Maryville Rd.
Granite City
Phone: 877-3445
Rev. R.G. McGehee, Pastor

Peace Church
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.
Bible Study Wed. Night.....7:00 p.m.
Sunday Jr. Church.....10:30 a.m.
3725 Horseshoe Rd.
Pastor David Malone
87- Peace
254-4427

Tri City Assembly
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Morn Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Eve Worship.....7:00 p.m.
Wed Night TV Program Access Channel 3.....5:00 p.m.
Wed Family Night Services.....7:00 p.m.
3400 Maryville Rd. • Granite City
931-4500

To Place Your
Worship Hours
In Our Church
Directory,
Contact Sandy
at 344-0264

THE ROCK
FOUR SQUARE
CHURCH
2400 E. 25th Street
Granite City
Pastor Den Dickerson
Services:
Sunday 10:30 AM
Thursday Evening 7:00 PM
876-0507

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FASHIONS FOR YOUR
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Minimum 200.000 available chainwide
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STORAGE BOXES
34" under-the-bed box,
Reg. 15.99, SALE 11.19
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ALL FRAGRANCE,
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LADIES'

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SELECTED FALL AND
WINTER LONG-SLEEVED
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Minimum 100 available per store
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SWEATERS, WOVEN
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Minimum 400 available per store
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MEN'S

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ALL MEN'S
HOODED SWEATSHIRTS
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SALE 7.49-12.49,
Minimum 24 available per store
BOXED GIFT ITEMS
Includes boxed dress shirts,
robes, ties, belt sets, suspender
sets, wallet sets, boxers, t-shirts
and glove sets.
Reg. 4.99-21.99,
SALE 2.49-10.99,
Minimum 48 available per store
Sold in Men's Dept.

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GOODS

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IN STOCK
Minimum 2,000.000 available chainwide
• Sold in Sporting Goods Dept.

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15-WATT HI-POWER
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WHITE-WESTINGHOUSE
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LOADHANDLER PICKUP
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Reg. 89.99, SALE 44.49
Automotive merchandise, minimum 52.000
available chainwide. Sold in Automotive Dept.

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RED TAG SALE!
SAVE ON A HUGE
SELECTION OF TOYS
Minimum 500.000 available chainwide
50% off
SELECTED TOYS
28" SESAME STREET®
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SELECTED HAIR
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SCARVES AND BELTS
Minimum 100 available per store
Sold in Fashion Accessories Dept.

DON'T MISS
THIS SALE!

Reduction in off price. While quantities last.
Sorry, no rain checks. Intermediate mark-downs may
have been taken. Assortments may vary by store.

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Super K

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Give children plenty of love; they are God's precious gifts

I once heard a saying that children are God's apostles sent forth day by day to preach love and hope and joy. Every child born into the world is a new and miraculous creation of God, an ever fresh and radiant possibility of an extraordinary, pure and lovely life.

Longfellow wrote, "That which the fountain sends forth returns to the fountain." A parent's job is of the utmost importance. God is primarily a Father. One of the most beautiful things in life is a wonderful, loving parent.

In the whole big wide world, you only have one mother and one father. Nothing can compare with a true parent's love; it is the nearest thing to divine love.

Give your children priceless gifts that will enrich not only their lives, but also the lives of

A New You



Catherine Galasso

those they come in contact with. Feed their little hearts with love, appreciation, beauty and courage, and they will grow to return these attributes into your life.

Nourish their souls with happiness and they will develop into joy-filled treasures. Children imitate

their parents. Be a loving example of genuine sincerity, honesty and creativity.

The simplest moments are sometimes the most memorable. I can remember eating cereal in the kitchen with my mother for a midnight snack, her walking me to school every morning or her cheerful and happy "hello." Baking holiday pies, watching her satisfaction in making something delicious, playing dress-up and going grocery shopping together, but each of us having our own cart — these simple gestures provided lasting memories. The best things in life are indeed free.

We need not provide our children with acres upon acres of materialistic comforts to make them happy. A safe, secure environment, your time, attention and genuine

love for life can give our precious children treasures they will cherish and that will outlast the latest game or video craze.

Turn off the television and go on an adventure. Pack a picnic lunch and take the children to the park. Let them feed the ducks, watch the little squirrels gather their food and lay it up for the winter. Take them to the zoo, the museum or the library. Go on a nature walk where kids can collect things along the way. Afterward, glue the items on colored paper and you'll have an original work of art to stick to the refrigerator, filling them with pride and joy.

Plant a tree or a garden with them and watch it grow and take on new life. This will teach them patience and give them encouragement to know that God is always developing

them into bigger and better leaders of tomorrow.

"The beautiful weather shows me that God's creation is truly awesome," wrote reader Christine Palm. "The miracle of the flowers blooming, the grass growing and the birds chirping brings this back to me."

Teach children the importance of helping others. Bake homemade muffins or cookies together and take a basket of them to a shut-in or bring a bouquet of hand-picked flowers to a neighbor. Encourage children to share what they have.

Such acts of generosity and kindness benefit the recipients, but they also have a great impact on the givers. When children see what a difference their efforts make in another's life it builds in them the joy of

living for others.

We, as adults, always have to interact with other people. If it is our joy to do so and we do unto another as we would have them do unto us, then our whole life is filled with the joy of giving and living.

If you have a child you can influence and shape, you have the opportunity to create a living sculpture, a work of art to pass on into the next generation, to bless the world with beauty, integrity and love.

Catherine Galasso is a free-lance columnist for the *Suburban Journals*. You may write to her at *Suburban Journals*, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, 63131, or by e-mail at westnews@primary.net.

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Clover Leaf Bank directors approve subsidiary

Clover Leaf Bank's board of directors has approved the formation of Clover Leaf Financial Services Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Clover Leaf Bank.

Charles Schmidt, chairman of the board of Clover Leaf

Bank, said the new subsidiary will offer a complete line of insurance, including home, auto, mortgage and life.

The establishment of Clover Leaf Financial is the second significant development announced by Clover Leaf

Bank in recent weeks.

In late November, the bank announced its plans to construct an 8,000-square-foot, full-service banking facility on Illinois 157 in Edwardsville, across from Meridian Road.

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SUNDAY JAN. 17	1:00PM & 4:30PM

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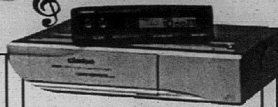


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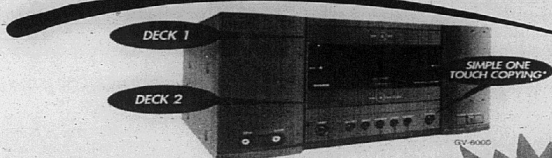
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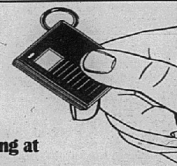
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Sports

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Missed matchup Flyers, Rams go separate ways during holidays

Who can blame Centralia High School Athletic Director Rick Moss for grumbling during the Centralia Holiday Tournament about the draw he would have had if East St. Louis Senior had joined the Mt. Vernon boys for that tourney.

Merged with Lincoln of East St. Louis this year, East Side went to the Collinsville Tournament, where Lincoln has been a

mainstay, preventing Moss from showcasing the Flyers' 6-foot-9 junior Darius Miles with Mt. Vernon's Kent Williams.

A senior bound for Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Williams set a

St. Louis Shootout record recently with a 48-point outburst that helped the Rams topple Rainier Beach of Seattle, Wash., 85-76, and easily secure a No. 1 seed at Centralia. More recently, Williams scored 49 against Carbondale.

East Side gained a No. 1 seed at Collinsville although losses to Peoria and Edwardsville reminded the Flyers they'd need more than just the nationally recognized Miles.

Why separate tournaments for Miles and Williams?

"After the merger, we looked at our schedule and decided to take one tourney from each school's previous schedule," said East Side Athletic Director Ted Daniels.

East St. Louis had been at Galesburg for Thanksgiving and at Centralia for Christmas in 1997, and Lincoln had been at Rock Island and at Collinsville.

East Side went 2-0 in Galesburg this season, and after the Collinsville tourney, can look to being the headline attraction in a game against St. Louis Vashon in the Jan. 18 Martin Luther King Classic at the Kiel Center.

Basketball fans, including those slighted by the professional (NBA) strike, need not worry about interesting coming attractions for Mt. Vernon and East Side.

After an early-season 76-45 victory over O'Fallon, the Rams appear to be a cinch for the South Seven Conference title. They visit O'Fallon on Feb. 12 after greeting Althoff in a

non-league game on Jan. 29. For East Side, after a Jan. 22 game at Chicago Marshall, Southwestern Conference foes Alton (on Jan. 26) and Belleville West (on Jan. 30) visit East St. Louis.

In February, the Flyers close their SWC and regular season schedule at Granite City (Feb. 19), at Alton (Feb. 20) and at home against Belleville East (Feb. 26).

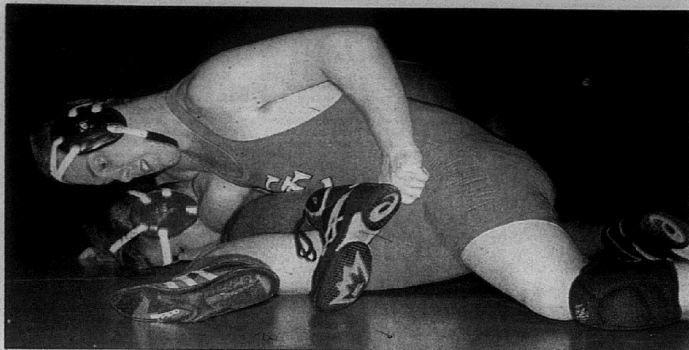
Overtime

When it comes to basketball analysis, the Mt. Vernon Channel 10 cablevision team of Rob Wielt and color commentator Jeff Hacker rates with the best in the state.

Wielt especially is eager to see if the Rams are able to shake the memory of last season's postseason overtime loss to Centralia, when Mt. Vernon blew a five-point lead with 30 seconds to play in regulation.

"This team has a group of seniors who were state junior high champions in the eighth grade and may not have lost a total of eight games since they were seventh-graders," said Hacker, a native of Freeburg.

See FLYERS, Page 3B



Kevin Venne, top, has been pushing himself for a run at a state title. One of the captains of the GCHS varsity team, Venne wrestled to a second-place finish at state as a sophomore. His junior campaign, he went a respectable 38-7. Venne has been studying tapes of his matches to improve his approach.

Venne seeking return to his days of glory

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

After a brilliant sophomore campaign that ended with a

PREP WRESTLING second-place finish at state, Granite

City senior Kevin Venne fell to earth a bit last year, going

38-7. "It didn't go the way I had planned it," Venne said. "People were gunning for me

because my sophomore year. I placed second in state, so people were really gunning for me and I wasn't ready for it. I was being lackadaisical with my wrestling, and it caught up to me. I didn't perform like I should have."

Despite that, Venne found himself in a leadership position on the Warriors wrestling squad.

"Kevin and George (Kirgan)

See VENNE, Page 4B

Kirgan says 45-3 mark isn't good enough

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Granite City wrestler George

PREP WRESTLING Kirgan went 45-3 last year as a

sophomore and wasn't satisfied. It takes a special athlete to set his sights that high and

wholly expect to fulfill them, especially in a state with such strong wrestling competition. Kirgan fits the mold.

"I lost two in the state tournament," he said. "I was disappointed at state. I should have done a lot better. But

that's past, we'll see what I can do now, hopefully a lot better."

This summer, Kirgan prepared intensely for the

See KIRGAN, Page 4B

Senior overcoming harsh self-criticism, hurt ankle

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Senior Brooks Narvaez is coming off

PREP WRESTLING of a 42-6 junior season that ended without a state championship.

A lot of guys finished last year without a state title — all but one of

the wrestlers in every weight class — but Brooks is a harsh self-critic.

"I think I did fair, nothing extraordinary," he said. "Maybe other people thought it was exceptional, but I didn't really live up to my personal

expectations. I think I held myself up to a little bit higher expectations than other people do."

"Brooks is a two-time state qualifier, placed sixth in state last year at 145 pounds and he wasn't ranked all year,"

Granite City coach Mike Garland said. "The reason was that there were about 17 guys at that weight class that could have placed, and fortunately he was one of the six people that got a medal at that weight."

Narvaez and co-captain George Kirgan spent the offseason preparing to

See SENIOR, Page 3B

State champion returns for stint as assistant coach

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

The prodigal son has

PREP WRESTLING returned to the steel fold of his grappler

origins. T.J. Slay, the undefeated

state champ as a senior in 1996, has come back after three years in college to help

coach his former school.

"He was a hard worker, and his hard work paid off," Granite City coach Mike Garland said. "Not only being

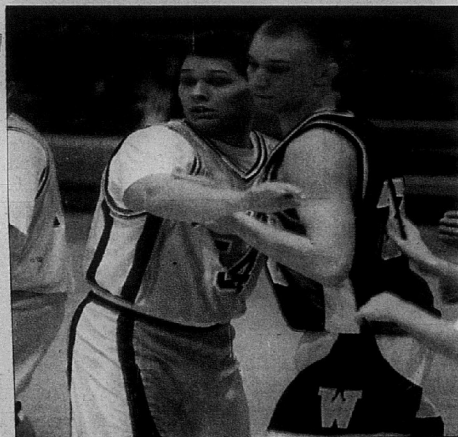
a state champ, but he was

Granite City's first state champ since Bob Miller did it in 1969. Since then, we had another state champ, John

Venne, but T.J. was the first in a long time.

"When you get somebody that young, the kids can relate to him. When you keep talking about Bob Miller, he is

See STATE, Page 3B



BCA wins tournament

Jake Smith of Granite City, left, a student at Bethel Christian Academy in South Roxana, defends against Jeff Gihring of Mississippi Valley Christian School of Alton in the championship game of the 22nd Annual Holiday Tournament in Mount Vernon. BCA won 52-45.

East defense does it all in 5-2 win over Illinois Warriors

Scores three goals, limits damage from Meszaros

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

The Illinois Warriors fell to Belleville East

CLUB ICE HOCKEY Monday night 5-2 in Mississippi Valley Club Hockey Association play, ending two streaks — the

Lancers' two-game losing streak and the Warriors'

two-game winning streak.

The defense led the way for the Lancers, scoring three of their five goals. Blueliners Nick Rodriguez, Matt Schaefer and Steve

Wagner scored for East, along with J.R. Yedinak and Andrew Stephens up front.

The defense also did an excellent job of containing Granite City's leading scorer, Bobby

Meszaros, who was held to one goal and one assist.

"Bobby had just come off a fantastic week of scoring 10 goals in two games," East coach

Mark McKinney said. "We wanted to keep an eye on him and not let him get the Granite

City offense racing."

"From some of the games I have seen, a lot of their offensive chances revolve around him. They have been decimated by injuries to a

couple of key players, and Bobby has had to carry the load on offense.

"So it was important for our team to be aware of where he was on the ice at all times and try to neutralize him as much as possible

and take advantage of their short bench, something we didn't do against Belleville

last."

McKinney was especially happy about the offensive contribution from his defenders.

"The defense did an exceptional job," McKinney said. "Matt Schaefer and Steve

Wagner played a very strong and physical game. Lee Bennion and Nick Rodriguez with

their speed and transition play kept the Warriors off balance."

"Yedinak and Stephens used some tenacious forechecking to get numerous turnovers in the

Granite City zone."

Greg Avdolan stopped 15 of 17 shots in his first start of the season.

"Greg was solid in goal," McKinney said.

"He was strong on his angles and did a very good job of controlling rebounds in front of the

net. That was very important because Granite City is a team that crashes the net."

The Lancers had won four in a row before their recent skid. But they dropped an 8-2

game Saturday to O'Fallon and Sunday lost 4-1

against cross-town rival Belleville West before

facing off against the Warriors.

East improved its record to 5-5 overall, 1-5 in the Southern Conference. Granite City fell even at 4-4.

The Lancers' next game is Sunday against

Edwardsville at the East Alton Ice Arena.

Granite City played Wednesday night against

Alton before heading to Fairview Heights

today, Sunday, to face Althoff.

Sports

Boys hoops

15th annual
Collinsville/Schnucks
Holiday Classic
SEEDS
1. East St. Louis; 2. Decatur
MacArthur; 3. Quincy; 4. Collinsville.

Monday, Dec. 28
First Round
Game 1: Belleville East vs. Jack-
sonville, 9 a.m.
Game 2: Decatur MacArthur vs.
St. Louis University High, 10:30
a.m.
Game 3: Granite City vs. Chat-
ham Glenwood, 1 p.m.
Game 4: Quincy vs. Triad, 2:30
p.m.
Game 5: O'Fallon vs. Springfield
Sacred-Heart Griffin, 4 p.m.
Game 6: East St. Louis vs. Mad-
ison, 7 p.m.
Game 7: Collinsville vs. Decatur
Eisenhower, 8:30 p.m.
Game 8: Waterloo vs. Dixon, 10
p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 29
Second Round
Game 9: Game 1 loser vs. Game
2 loser, 9 a.m.
Game 10: Game 3 loser vs. Game
4 loser, 10:30 a.m.
Game 11: Game 1 winner vs.
Game 2 winner, 1 p.m.
Game 12: Game 3 winner vs.
Game 4 winner, 2:30 p.m.
Game 13: Game 5 loser vs. Game
6 loser, 4 p.m.
Game 14: Game 5 winner vs.
Game 6 winner, 7 p.m.
Game 15: Game 7 winner vs.
Game 8 winner, 8:30 p.m.
Game 16: Game 7 loser vs. Game
8 loser, 10 p.m.

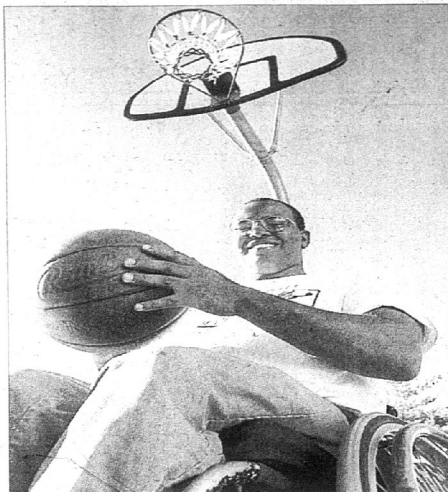
Wednesday, Dec. 30
Consolation semifinals
Game 17: Game 9 winner vs.
Game 10 winner, 9 a.m.
Game 18: Game 13 winner vs.
Game 16 winner, 10:30 a.m.
Semifinals
Game 19: Game 11 winner vs.
Game 12 winner, 1 p.m.
Game 20: Game 14 winner vs.
Game 15 winner, 2:30 p.m.
Consolation championship
Game 21: Game 17 winner vs.
Game 18 winner, 4 p.m.
Third place
Game 22: Game 19 loser vs.
Game 20 loser, 7 p.m.
Championship
Game 23: Game 19 winner vs.
Game 20 winner, 8:30 p.m.

56th annual
Centralla Holiday Tournament

Monday, Dec. 28
Game 1: Chicago Marist vs.
Houston Westbury, 9 a.m.
Game 2: (4) Peoria Richwoods vs.
Chicago Mount Carmel, 10:30
a.m.
Game 3: (1) Mount Vernon vs.
Salem, 1:15 p.m.
Game 4: Champaign Central vs.
St. Louis Cardinal Ritter, 2:45
p.m.
Game 5: (2) Raduach (Ky) Tilgh-
man vs. Cahokia, 4:15 p.m.
Game 6: Belleville West vs. Chi-
cago Curver, 7 p.m.
Game 7: Centralla vs. Bartlett
(Tenn), 8:30 p.m.
Game 8: (3) Alton vs. McEachern
(Ga.), 10 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 29
Game 9: Loser Game 1 vs. loser
Game 2, 9 a.m.
Game 10: Loser Game 3 vs. loser
Game 4, 10:30 a.m.
Game 11: Winner Game 1 vs.
winner Game 2, 1:15 p.m.
Game 12: Winner Game 3 vs.
winner Game 4, 2:45 p.m.
Game 13: Loser Game 5 vs. loser
Game 6, 4:15 p.m.
Game 14: Winner Game 5 vs.
winner Game 6, 7 p.m.
Game 15: Winner Game 7 vs.
winner Game 8, 8:30 p.m.
Game 16: Loser Game 7 vs. loser
Game 8, 10 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 30
Game 17: Fifth-place semifinal —
Loser Game 11 vs. loser Game
12, 9 a.m.
Game 18: Consolation semifinal
— Winner Game 9 vs. Winner
Game 10, 9 a.m.
Game 19: Fifth-place semifinal —
Loser Game 14 vs. loser Game
15, 9:30 a.m.
Game 20: Consolation semifinal
— Winner Game 13 vs. Winner
Game 16, 10:30 a.m.
Game 21: Championship semi-
final — Winner Game 11 vs. win-
ner Game 12, noon
Game 22: Championship semi-
final — Winner Game 14 vs. win-
ner Game 15, 1:30 p.m.
Game 23: Fifth-place game —
Winner Game 17 vs. winner
Game 18, 3 p.m.
Game 24: Consolation title game
— Winner Game 18 vs. winner
Game 20, 5 p.m.
Game 25: Third-place game —
Loser Game 21 vs. loser Game
22, 8:30 p.m.
Game 26: Championship game —
Winner Game 21 vs. winner
Game 22, 8:30 p.m.
(* Indicates games played at
Centralla Recreation Complex.)



Ibrahim Khayr, a Cahokia resident and Student at Gibault High School, plays wheelchair basketball for the St. Louis Rolling Rams.

Area resident having a ball

Khayr nets stint with Rolling Rams, junior team

By Bill Hester
Correspondent

Ibrahim Khayr had never even touched a basketball before he visited Bob Syzman at St. Mary's Health Center several years ago. Khayr's guardian in Cahokia, Bob Brown, had read an article about Syzman, the director of the St. Louis Wheelchair Athletic Association, and the sport of wheelchair basketball.

"We went to the office the day we read the story in the paper," Khayr said. "He took me to a wheelchair basketball practice and said to go ahead and see what I could do."

Khayr couldn't do too much that first day. But it was the start of an experience which literally changed the life of the 18-year-old senior at Gibault High School.

"I feel that it changed his outlook on a lot of things," Brown said. "At the time, he was a shy and intimidated type of kid. This gave him the confidence that he can do things."

Khayr had contracted polio when he was 8 years old in his native Somalia, located in East Africa.

His only previous experience in sports was playing soccer when he was young.

"Everybody in Somalia played soccer," Khayr said.

Khayr has learned to love the sport of wheelchair basketball and has gotten quite good at it.

So good, in fact, that he is a starter on the St. Louis Rolling Rams team, which practices twice a week at West County Tech in Chesterfield, Mo., and plays in several out-of-town tournaments a year.

So good that in April, he will participate with

a national select junior team for a series of games in Australia.

"I can't wait for that trip," Khayr said.

"Hopefully, I will have a new chair by then."

Khayr and his teammates with the Rolling Rams just returned from a successful trip.

They went to Omaha, Neb., and won their second tournament championship of the season. They also won a tournament in Dallas.

"We are ranked No. 1 in the country now," Khayr said. "We've already qualified for the National Junior Wheelchair Championship (set for March in Champaign)."

Khayr admits it took him a while to catch on to the game.

"It was hard at first," Khayr said. "It was like when I started out learning English. I had to start everything from scratch."

The most difficult part of the game at the beginning for Khayr was the ability to master the chair.

"To be a good player in this sport, you need to be able to control the chair," Khayr said.

"The shooting came later on."

The sport has proven to be a godsend for Khayr, who uses crutches most of the time at school.

"This has changed my attitude about everything," Khayr said. "I became addicted to it after I started playing. It's made life a lot more exciting."

Khayr will be joined on the national trip to Australia by Rolling Rams teammate and good friend Tony Greco of Kirkwood, Mo.

The local players seek donations for the trip.

For more information, call Peg Greco at (314) 822-8478.

Boys basketball

EAST ST. LOUIS FLYERS

Overall record (4-3)

November
25-28 Galesburg Tournament
25 vs. Galesburg.....W 70-61
26 vs. Aurora West.....W 63-59
27 vs. Peoria Woodruff.....W 66-44

December
4 Collinsville.....W 68-59
11 at Belleville West.....L 43-45
12 at Edwardsville.....L 42-58
19 at Peoria Central.....L 37-45
20 Collinsville Tournament
28 vs. Madison.....7 p.m.

January
8 Granite City.....8 p.m.
16 at Belleville East.....8 p.m.
29 at Collinsville.....8 p.m.
30 Belleville West.....8 p.m.

EDWARDSVILLE TIGERS

Overall record (4-1)

December
4 at Granite City.....L 55-56
11 Collinsville.....W 54-39
13 at Jerseyville.....L 58-60
18 at East St. Louis.....W 58-42
19 at Taylorville.....W 55-34
28-30 Charleston Tournament
28 vs. Olney.....8 p.m.

January
2 at Belleville East.....8 p.m.
8 Belleville East.....8 p.m.
16 Alton.....8 p.m.
20-23 at Salem Tournament.....TBA
29 Granite City.....8 p.m.
30 at Collinsville.....8 p.m.

February
2 at Civic Memorial.....8 p.m.
5 East St. Louis.....8 p.m.
6 Cahokia.....8 p.m.
9 Highland.....TBA
11 Belleville East (OT).....8 p.m.
15 at Belleville West.....8 p.m.
23 Triad.....8 p.m.
29 at Alton.....8 p.m.

GRANITE CITY WARRIORS

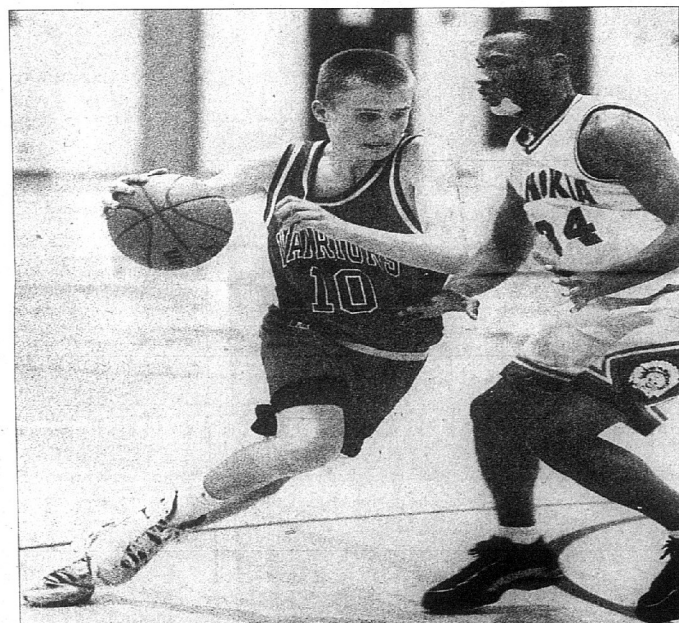
Overall record (6-2)

November
23-28 at Alton Tournament
23 vs. Springfield Lanphier.....W 60-51
25 vs. Cahokia.....W 78-69
27 vs. Alton.....L 68-76
28 vs. Madison.....W 44-40

December
4 Edwardsville.....W 56-55
5 at Triad.....W 50-48
12 Belleville West.....W 63-46
18 at Belleville East.....L 49-61
19 Jerseyville.....W 56-53
28-30 Collinsville Tournament
28 vs. Chatham Glenwood.....1 p.m.

January
5 at Civic Memorial.....8 p.m.
8 at East St. Louis.....8 p.m.
15 Collinsville.....8 p.m.
16 McCluer North.....8 p.m.
20-23 at Salem Tournament.....8 p.m.
29 at Edwardsville.....8 p.m.
30 at Alton.....8 p.m.

February
5 Belleville East.....8 p.m.
12 at Belleville West.....8 p.m.
19 East St. Louis.....8 p.m.
20 at Collinsville.....8 p.m.
28 Alton.....8 p.m.



Zack May, left, has taken over the leadership role for the Granite City Warriors.

February
5 Belleville East.....8 p.m.
12 at Belleville West.....8 p.m.
19 East St. Louis.....8 p.m.
20 at Collinsville.....8 p.m.
28 Alton.....8 p.m.

ALTHOFF CRUSADERS

Overall record (1-4)

December
1 at Mascoutah.....L 59-70
4 at O'Fallon.....L 52-61
5 Alton.....W 58-60
11 Belleville East.....L 58-60
18 at Waterloo Gibault.....W 60-55
22 Centralla.....8 p.m.
26-30 Mater Dei Tournament
26 vs. Mascoutah.....4 p.m.
28 vs. Sparta.....1:30 p.m.
28 vs. Mater Dei.....9 p.m.

January
1 vs. Rosana (EA).....5:45 p.m.
3 vs. O'Fallon (EA).....5:45 p.m.
6 vs. Belleville West (EA).....7:15 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

January
1 vs. Rosana (EA).....5:45 p.m.
3 vs. O'Fallon (EA).....5:45 p.m.
6 vs. Belleville West (EA).....7:15 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

January
1 vs. Rosana (EA).....5:45 p.m.
3 vs. O'Fallon (EA).....5:45 p.m.
6 vs. Belleville West (EA).....7:15 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

January
1 vs. Rosana (EA).....5:45 p.m.
3 vs. O'Fallon (EA).....5:45 p.m.
6 vs. Belleville West (EA).....7:15 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

January
5 Weclinn.....8 p.m.
13 vs. Civic Memorial (EA).....8 p.m.
8 Freeburg.....8 p.m.
12 at Lebanon.....8 p.m.
15 Springfield Sacred Heart Grif-
fin.....8 p.m.
18 at Cahokia.....8 p.m.
19-23 Belleville Tournament.....TBA
29 at Mt. Vernon.....8 p.m.
30 at Mater Dei.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

January
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

January
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

January
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

January
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Highland.....8 p.m.
6 Cape Central.....8 p.m.
13 Belleville West (EA).....8 p.m.
16 Jerseyville.....8 p.m.
19 at Okawville.....8 p.m.

November
24-28 Alton Tournament
23 vs. Alton.....L 48-75
27 vs. Cahokia.....L 59-71
28 vs. Granite City.....L 40-44
28 vs. Springfield.....L 42-44

December
4 St. Louis Berkley.....L 52-61
12 at Jerseyville.....L 47-55
15 Waterloo.....W 36-33
28-30 Collinsville Tournament
vs. East St. Louis.....7 p.m.

January
5 at Florida.....8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy
8 p.m.
9 at Centralla.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pitts.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield.....8 p.m.
16 at Hartsville (Wright City, Mo.).....noon

February
5 at Florida.....8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy
8 p.m.
9 at Centralla.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pitts.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield.....8 p.m.
16 at Hartsville (Wright City, Mo.).....noon

January
5 at Florida.....8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy
8 p.m.
9 at Centralla.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pitts.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield.....8 p.m.
16 at Hartsville (Wright City, Mo.).....noon

February
5 at Florida.....8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy
8 p.m.
9 at Centralla.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pitts.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield.....8 p.m.
16 at Hartsville (Wright City, Mo.).....noon

January
5 at Florida.....8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy
8 p.m.
9 at Centralla.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pitts.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield.....8 p.m.
16 at Hartsville (Wright City, Mo.).....noon

February
5 at Florida.....8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy
8 p.m.
9 at Centralla.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pitts.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield.....8 p.m.
16 at Hartsville (Wright City, Mo.).....noon

January
5 at Florida.....8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy
8 p.m.
9 at Centralla.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pitts.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield.....8 p.m.
16 at Hartsville (Wright City, Mo.).....noon

February
5 at Florida.....8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy
8 p.m.
9 at Centralla.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pitts.....8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer.....8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield.....8 p.m.
16 at Hartsville (Wright City, Mo.).....noon

26 Lebanon.....7:30 p.m.
30 at Sesser Valier.....8 p.m.

February
5 at Venice.....7:30 p.m.
13 Cahokia.....8 p.m.
16 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
18 at Teutopolis.....7:30 p.m.
20 at Quincy Notre Dame.....8 p.m.

METRO-EAST LUTHERAN KNIGHTS
Overall record (2-5)

November
24-28 Metro-East Tip-off Classic
24 vs. Valmeyer.....W 56-53 (OT)
25 vs. Wood River.....L 21-54
28 vs. Chester.....L 43-84

December
4 Jacksonville ISD.....L
11 at Bunker Hill.....L 34-76
12 Bunker Hill.....L 59-78
19 St. Louis North County Chris-
tian.....W 41-29

January
8 Valley Park (Mo.).....8 p.m.
11 at Dupu.....7:30 p.m.
14 at Venice.....8 p.m.
16 at Whitfield.....8 p.m.
19-23 at Litchfield Tournament.....TBA
28 at St. Charles (Mo.) Lutheran.....7:30 p.m.
26 St. Louis Lutheran North.....7:30 p.m.

February
2 Mulberry Grove.....8 p.m.
5 Hancock.....8 p.m.
6 Springfield Lutheran.....8 p.m.
10 at Silcox.....7:30 p.m.
12 at Westminster.....7:30 p.m.
13 Indianapolis (Ind.) Lutheran.....7:30 p.m.
15 at Valmeyer.....7:30 p.m.
19 Orchard Farm (Mo.).....7:30 p.m.

VENICE RED DEVILS
Overall record (2-3)

December
1 at Freeburg.....L 51-75
5 at Cahokia.....L 54-69
12 at Weclinn.....L 68-79
12 St. Louis Summer.....W 63-52
15 Dupu.....W 78-71
18 at Livingston.....7:30 p.m.
26-30 Freeburg Tournament
26 vs. Gibault.....7 p.m.

January
5 at St. Louis Gateway Christian.....7 p.m.
6 at St. Louis Gateway Tech.....7 p.m.
12 Valmeyer.....7:30 p.m.
14 Metro-East Lutheran.....7:30 p.m.
19-23 at Sparta Tournament.....TBA
29 Columbia.....7:30 p.m.
30 at Sparta.....8:15 p.m.

February
2 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
5 Madison.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

January
5 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

February
2 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
5 Madison.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

January
5 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

February
2 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
5 Madison.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

January
5 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

February
2 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
5 Madison.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

January
5 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

February
2 at St. Louis Summer.....7:30 p.m.
5 Madison.....7:30 p.m.
9 East St. Louis.....7:30 p.m.
13 at Alton.....7:30 p.m.
20 St. Louis Besumont.....7:30 p.m.

MVCHA Hockey

Schedules for local teams in the Missis-
sippi Valley Club Hockey Association. Rinks
listed below in parentheses are: FH — the
U.S. Ice Sports Complex in Fawcett Heights;
EA — East Alton; GC — Granite City; CA —
Cahokia.

ALTHOFF CRUSADERS

Overall record (5-2)

November
15 vs. Belleville East (FH).....W 7-2
22 vs. Alton (EA).....L 0-2
28 vs. Rosana (EA).....W 10-3
29 vs. O'Fallon (FH).....L 2-3

December
3 vs. Alton (FH).....6 p.m.
6 vs. Rosana (FH).....4:15 p.m.
10 vs. O'Fallon (FH).....7:30 p.m.
12 vs. Belleville West (FH).....8:15 p.m.
18 vs. Alton-Marquette (FH).....7:45 p.m.
27 vs. Granite City (FH).....8:45 p.m.
29 vs. Belleville East (FH).....6:45 p.m.

January
3 vs. Alton (FH).....6 p.m.
6 vs. Rosana (FH).....4:15 p.m.
10 vs. O'Fallon (FH).....7:30 p.m.
12 vs. Belleville West (FH).....8:15 p.m.
18 vs. Alton-Marquette (FH).....7:45 p.m.
27 vs. Granite City (FH).....8:45 p.m.
29 vs. Belleville East (FH).....6:45 p.m.

February
15 vs. Belleville East (FH).....W 7-2
22 vs. Alton (EA).....L 0-2
28 vs. Rosana (EA).....W 10-3
29 vs. O'Fallon (FH).....L 2-3

December
5 vs. Belleville West (FH).....W 2-0
6 vs. Marquette (EA).....W 3-1
13 vs. Collinsville (FH).....W 5-4
14 vs. Cahokia (FH).....7:45 p.m.
22 vs. Edwardsville (FH).....6:45 p.m.
27 vs. Granite City (FH).....8:45 p.m.
29 vs. Belleville East (FH).....6:45 p.m.

EDWARDSVILLE TIGERS

Overall record (5-2)

November
19 vs. Granite City (EA).....L 3-4
22 vs. O'Fallon (FH).....W 1-2
24 vs. Belleville West (FH).....W 3-2
29 vs. Alton (EA).....L 1-4

December
5 at Civic Memorial.....8 p.m.
8 at East St. Louis.....8 p.m.
15 Collinsville.....

Sports

Venne seeks return to his sophomore form

Continued from Page 1B

and Brooks (Narvaez) are all co-captains, basically because of what they've done, qualifying for state," Granite City head coach Mike Garland said. "Hopefully, Kevin can come back this year and win a championship."

"He only had seven losses last year, but that's a down year for Kevin. You go from placing second to not placing sophomore to not placing last year. Hopefully, he can kind of forget about last year and go back to the way he was and wrestle more hungry as a senior, like he did as a sophomore."

Venne is on board with his skipper. He plans to do everything in his power to make last year disappear and return to his sophomore form.

"I'm taking everything from the top and starting all over," he said. "I retraced all my steps from my sophomore year. Coach has told me don't wrestle like you did last year. You are a whole new person. Wrestle like you did as a sophomore. He told me to watch myself, tapes of my sophomore year, and right now, I'm watching them every night."

"Trying to clear my head out from last year, I've been comparing my films, and my sophomore year and my junior year are two very different things. Sophomore year I would shoot, junior year I just stood there and did nothing. I caught on to what paid off, doing shots and working and going at them. I think I have a handle on it. I just have to go out and perform now."

Venne plans to do just that. This summer, he did something smart — something any college student would say is

paramount to peace of mind — get hard classes out of the way.

"In the summer, I really mostly concentrated on my schooling so I could get classes out of the way, so I wouldn't have to worry about them during wrestling season," Venne said.

"Classes like Civics or Senior Comp, the harder classes."

"In the fall, I lifted weights and played football. Right from the end of the summer I got started running and I've been running ever since."

"Football helped. I burned a little bit of weight off, got a little stronger, got in a little bit of shape where I could breathe and I could go a little longer than I could before."

"It helped me in (wrestling) because this is so hard. Right now, everyone else is trying to catch up and standing around breathing hard, and I'm already there."

Captain Venne wants his work ethic, his willingness to fix his mistakes and reverse his complacency, to rub off on the rest of the team and lead them to a state title.

"Our team is strong. We have a couple of weak points, but they will build up," Venne said. "We have a couple of young kids in the lineup who will catch on real quick. They are going to catch on the hard way and adapt to it real easy because the coach will push them."

"As one of the captains, I try to get anything coach needs done, like with the ticket sales we've been doing. I've been trying to bust everyone's butts to get them in. I get on everybody's cases and try to help them as much as I can."

Kirgan says last year's 45-3 mark wasn't good enough

Continued from Page 1B

rigors of the winter with teammate and co-captain Brooks Narvaez.

"I lifted weights a lot more than I had and went to a lot of tournaments," he said. "I went to a couple of camps, a camp in New York and a camp in Oklahoma. I went to some open tournaments and competed in the national tournament. Brooks and I were both on Team Illinois for the Gold team. So we both wrestled a lot this summer."

Kirgan's other off-season pursuit was football. At linebacker, he was every bit as quick, strong and explosive as he is on the mats.

"Football helped me stay in shape and it was something fun to do, instead of sitting around eating," Kirgan said, laughing. "We got to run around and hit people. It was fun."

Kirgan is having fun at other wrestlers' expense. This weekend he went up and won the highly regarded Springfield Tournament. Two nights before that, he beat Belleville West's Corey Ford to move to 11-0 with 11 pins and 11 first takedowns.

For the match with the Maroons, Granite City coach Mike Garland moved Kirgan down from his customary 171 pounds to 160 pounds. The move has paid off.

"Instead of being as strong as 171-pounders, he can be stronger than other 160-pounders," Garland said.

"Strength can make all the difference in this sport. In the morning it can prevent injury. You can hold your opponent better, you can break him down, you can turn him. You just have that extra zip because you have the confidence knowing that you have the strength to control your opponent."

"He was weighing out at 164, 165 pounds, so it wasn't that big a jump to go down to 160. The second day at state, the weight is going to be 165, so it won't be that big a cut."

"It makes a big difference, the strength factor. He's strong at 171, but he's not the strongest. At 160, he's a big boy, he's one of the strongest guys in the state at that weight. I told him that he has a good shot at winning state at 160 pounds. He has a chance at 171, but he has a better chance at 160."

But the biggest difference for George this season is that his dad, Al Kirgan, will no longer be there to critique him. The senior Kirgan left his position as assistant to Garland to become the new head coach at Collinsville.

"It's been weird that he's not here watching me in practice, telling me what I'm doing wrong," Kirgan said. "He's still kind of coaching me a little bit at home. He's still

pretty much one of my coaches even though he's over at Collinsville. But I'm ready to go over there and knock them out."

With the hard-core demands of wrestling acting on the sometimes fragile psyches of his younger teammates, Kirgan's ability to fulfill his role as co-captain is crucial to the team's success. He relishes the challenge of leadership.

"I think my responsibilities are to try to keep everybody informed," he said. "Like freshmen who have never wrestled varsity before, what they are going to be expected to do. I have to keep everybody pumped up in practice because in wrestling season you get tired and worn out and burned out. I try to keep them ready so they get in shape quicker."

Garland has been impressed with Kirgan's work ethic.

"George has qualified for state both as a freshman and a sophomore, and he's got two years to go," Garland said. "I feel that because of his work habits in the spring and summer, he has worked harder than anybody on the team. That's what we need. It's really paid off for him. That's what we are looking for, leaders like that, that lead by example. People don't follow titles, they follow examples."

Kirgan has set high goals again this year.

"Specifically, I would like to be state champion this year," he said. "As a team, I would like us to place in state. It would be nice to have that big trophy for our team. And I would like for everyone to have fun."

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Thank You, and enjoy the holiday season with family and friends.



Twice the night before Christmas
And all through the crowd,
Not a bidder was absent
'Cause they were all proud.
There were thousands of items
They wanted to buy,
And to give all the others
A Holiday "Hi!"

All the antiques
Were checking their list
To see what the market
Would bring for their gifts,
Tool buyers were present
Looking for deals,
Craftsmen and keen kutter
Oh, what a steal!
The material buyers
Were there for the towels,
Sorting through dollies
And clothing for dolls.

"Miscellaneous" buyers
Were searching the rows,
Bidding on piles
Not wanting the clothes
The glassware was spotted
Carnival and depression,
Wauferd and Condiewick
Made a great impression.

And old Lionel
Was found in a box,
A toy connoisseur
Bid shy like a fox.
As the sale was over
And we left the site,
Terry & Luke Shouted Merry Christmas
All of a Good Night.

poem by Luke
**The Jerry "Bones" Allan
Family Wishes You A Safe
& Joyous Holiday Season**

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To receive your free copy of the Bridal Planner simply fill out the form below and take it to your local Suburban Journals office (call 314-821-1110 for the nearest office), or mail it to Bridal Planner, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, MO 63131. (For mail in requests please allow 3-6 weeks for delivery.)

☐ Please send me a copy of the Bridal Planner.

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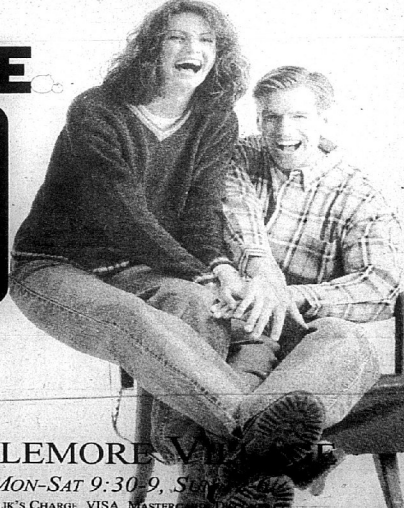
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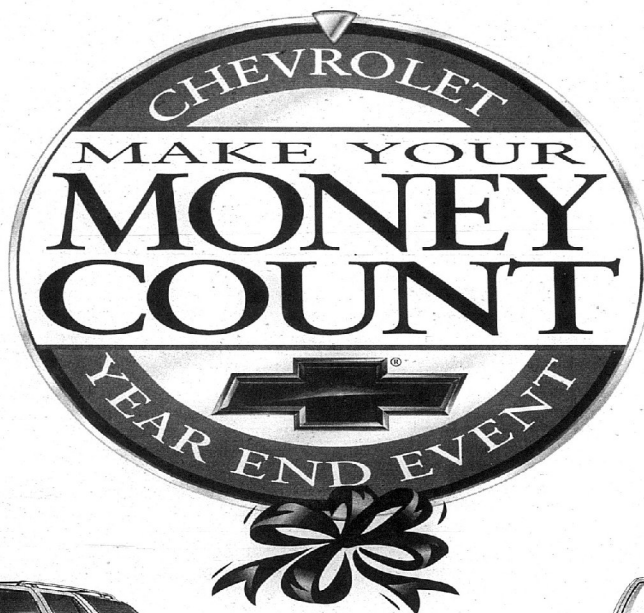
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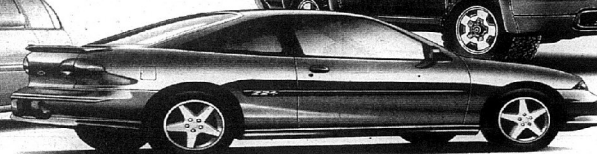
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In 1999, these movie characters will probably resolve to start parking their station wagons in the giant "Godzilla" foot-free zone (or add a Monster clause to their insurance policies).



Holding the magic sword by the handle instead of the other way is a New Year's resolution best kept by young Kayley and her animal friends from the Warner Bros. movie, "Quest for Camelot."



New Year's Resolutions

Most of us make 'em. All of us break 'em. After January 3, those New Year's resolutions are just too hard to keep.

So we go throughout the year, never quite realizing that our lives would be much less complicated if we could just stick to our list of little ways that we can improve ourselves.

The following folks in Movie Land learned this the hard way in 1998, as the pictures on this page can tell you. You can bet that, somewhere in some darkened theater or on home video, these characters are regretting the day that they broke their own lists of Unusual Bad Hollywood Movie New Year's Resolutions ...



Buying a decent mirror should be a priority of the masked killer from "Halloween H20," who seems to have bought the defective scary Jamie Lee Curtis model instead. And the couple from "Six Days, Seven Nights" should really resolve to stop meeting on the edges of 195-foot-drop cliffs and just go to the Burger Barn like everybody else.

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By Tom St

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By Tom Strongman

without a trace of top-heaviness.

Since the overall height is nearly 2 inches less than the 4x4, stepping in is easier and there are no garages or car washes with less hassle.

Dodge makes no apologies for the fact that the Durango is a bona fide pickup. A Dakota pickup, a gold truck in its own right. Sheet metal from the windshield flaps forward is identical to the Dakota. And there are no compromises. Dakota components as well, such as the instrument panel and front seats. Even the tail lights are identical. The only thing that's different is this is smart and helps contain cost.

Some of the secondary switches on the dashboard control the headlight dimmer, add an inferior feel.

Even though the Durango is technically a 4x4, it's not a 4x4. It's a 4x2 with the power and flexibility than most of its competitors, which include vehicles such as the Ford Bronco, Chevrolet Blazer and the Jeep Cherokee. The roof, from the second seat back, has been raised nearly 2 inches for more room and greater cargo capacity. The optional second row of seats, seating for eight, should you need it, yet it tumbles into the floor quickly when you don't. The second row of seats is another key to the Durango's key strengths.

Another is the ease with which the second row can be folded down. It can be folded so the truck's legs are formed in such a way as to

Points & Plugs

Gasoline prices hit lowest level since 1989

By Rick Stoff

Who would have thought the day would come when the neighborhood Quik-E-Mart would charge more for a 20-ounce bottle of soda than for a gallon of gasoline? The answer is yes, and it came in the form of a price of December hit the lowest level since 1969, a survey by AAA found. The average for self-service regular unleaded gasoline was 79¢ per gallon, down from 84¢, a low of 5.6 cents from the previous month and down 21 cents from the previous year.

Prices were below 80 cents per gallon were seen briefly in the St. Louis area at the beginning of the month.

The national average was \$1.02 per gallon at the beginning of December. The price of unleaded regular hit that price nationally was November 1969. One year ago the average price was 19.3 cents higher, about \$1.20 per gallon.

National averages recorded in December in previous years were \$1.29 in 1996; \$1.12 in 1995; \$1.15 in 1994; and \$1.09 in 1993, according to AAA.

Regular unleaded prices varied across the country in early December. They were \$1.18 in the West; \$1.05 in New England; \$1.10 in the Mid-Atlantic region; 97 cents in the Great Lakes region; 96 cents in the Southeast; and 95 cents in the Southwest.

The national average has gone from \$1.11 in June to \$1.02 in August, \$1.07 in September, \$1.07 in October and \$1.06 in November.

Who would have predicted it? Next spring Dodge Ram's big bet on the new 2500 cc. V-6 Grand Cherokee and Mercedes-Benz M-Class sport-utility vehicles in the same factory, in Graz, Austria. The plant already is building Jeeps. The company needs to build more Mercedes-Benz vehicles in North America because demand has exceeded the capacity of the M-Class plant in Alabama that is currently the world's only source for the truck.

Seven of America's 40 best-selling vehicles in November were trucks and sport-utility vehicles. The top three of the first nine months of World War II in which trucks outsold cars in the U.S.

The Ford F-Series trucks held their customary No. 1 spot in the overall sales chart while the Chevrolet full-line pickups were second.

The Ford Explorer sport-utility was third, the Dodge Ram pickup was fourth, the Ford Ranger pickup was fifth and the Ford Taurus was sixth.

Truck sales totaled 100,000 in November, with car sales came to 596,216.

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314 231-9900

ADVERTISING SALES
Suburban Journals of Greater St. Louis, North America's largest group of community newspapers has an opening for an **Automotive Advertising Account Executive**
Responsibilities include:
• Sales Calls to St. Louis Area Automotive Dealerships and Advertising Agencies
• Ad Copy & Design
• Proposal Writing & Formal Presentations
Qualifications:
• Sales Experience and/or College Degree
• Media Sales Experience a Plus
• Team Player with Positive Attitude
We Offer:
• Benefits, including 401K
• Excellent Compensation Package
Please Mail Resume To:
Major Accounts Assistant Manager
1714 Deer Trl, St. Louis, MO 63131
or Fax Resume To: 314-621-3408
Suburban Journals
Equal Opportunity Employer

SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR
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Suburban Journals Classified Department
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Saturday 9am-1:30pm
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Government jobs offer:
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SUBSTITUTE TEACHER WORKSHOP
The Granite City Community Unit School District #9 is offering a free training session on how to become a confident substitute teacher on January 30, 1989 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Only 20 people will be accepted for this workshop.
Place: Granite City Board of Education Office 1947 Adams Granite City, Illinois
You must call the Personnel Department to make a reservation at 451-5800. Substitute teachers earn \$60.00 per day and require a bachelor's degree.
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For a limited time, purchase any pre-owned vehicle & receive a DREAM VACATION! 6 destinations to choose from

98 FORD Windsor GL, Loaded up	96 FORD Contour GL, 1-Owner, Local
98 FORD Contour GL Low miles, Loaded	96 CHEVY 3/4 ton Conv. Van Sharp
98 FORD Escort LX, 4 Dr. Auto, 8K, Air, Cass	95 FORD T-Bird's, v8, Loaded 2 To Choose From
98 CHEVY Tahoe, 2dr, 4x4, Sharp	95 CHEVY Cavalier, Auto, Air, Inexpensive
98 FORD Expedition XLT, 3rd Seat, Air, Loaded	95 FORD Windsor LX, Inexpensive
97 FORD F250 XLT Reg. Cab, 4x4	95 CHEVY Caprice Classic Loaded
97 FORD F250, XLT Reg. Cab, 4x2	95 CHEVY C1500 L5E Auto, 5.7L
97 FORD F250, S.C., XLT, 4x2	95 PONT. Grand Am, Auto, Air, Sharp
97 DODGE D1500, S.C., XLT, 4X4	95 FORD Mustang GT, Auto, Low, Little Miles
97 DODGE D1500, S.C., XLT, 4X2	94 CHEVY S10 Pick Up, LS Low Miles, Sharp
97 CHEVY 2500 Conv. Cabin, 4x4, 4 Dr.	94 PONTIAC Sunbird, Auto, Cool, Good Price
97 FORD S.C., XLT, 4x4, Low Miles	94 DODGE Shadow FS, 5sp, Sunroof
97 FORD Taurus GL, Loaded	94 FORD Escort LX Wgn Auto, 5K, Cass
96 CHEVY Monte Carlo LS	94 CHEVY Camaro 5 speed, V6
96 PONTIAC Firebird V-6, Auto, w/T-Top	94 FORD Ranger XLT, Reg. Cab, Auto, 4000
96 LINCOLN Town Car Signature Moon Top, 4 Dr., 4x4, 4000	94 FORD F150 XLT, 4x2
96 GMC S.C. SLEZT, 4x4, Sharp	93 CHEVY C1500 Ext P/U, Silverado, Low miles
95 MERC. Mystique GS, Auto, Air, Air, 4000, 4000	92 FORD F150 XLT, 4x2 50,000 miles
96 OLDS Cutlass Sierra Loaded, Inexpensive	93 FORD T-Bird, Loaded & Inexpensive
96 FORD Explorer XLT 4 Door, 4x4	92 LINCOLN TownCar Sedan, 4000
96 & 98 FORD Ranger & CVT Auto, XLT, Low Miles	92 CADILLAC Sequoia DeVille Low Price

HOURS:

INV

The U.S. Marshal, unsolicited offer in following described Hildebrand, Madison to purchase. An e (\$500) is required to result in the rejection U.S. Marshal, 750 E. by 4:00 p.m. in J. "where is"/ "as is" the U.S. Marshal Se

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Mon.-Thurs. 5pm-8:30pm; Sat. 8am-1pm Call 1-800-766-FAST (3278)



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20

2500	Business for Sale
2502	Commercial Property
2504	Commercial Property
2510	Farms, Farmland
2515	Farms, Farmland
2520	Income Property
2525	Investment Property
2525	Industrial Property
2530	Office Space for Rent
2535	Property Management
2540	Real Estate Sales
2545	Warehouse/Storage
Rentals	
2601	Apartments/Town
2602	Central West End
2603	Overlook/Vancouver
2604	Self-Contained
2607	North County Farm
2608	At-Sea/Fun
2612	S. County/Fun
2613	S. County/Fun
2614	St. Charles/Fun
2618	West County/Fun
2619	St. Charles/Fun

	2620	Appts. Flurs Unit
	2621	Cent. West End Unit
	2622	Downtown Mkt Unit
	2623	North County Unit
	2624	North County Unit
	2625	North Side Unit
	2626	South City Unit
	2627	South City Unit
	2628	St. Charles Unit
	2629	W. County Unit
	2630	Windsor
	2631	East St. Louis
	2632	O'Fallon
	2633	St. Charles City Unit
	2634	St. Charles City Unit
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	2642	St. Charles City Unit
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	2699	St. Charles City Unit
	2700	St. Charles City Unit

2560	HOUSES For Rent
2561	Plant to Sell
2562	Mobile/Minivan for
2563	Mobile Home Sales
2564	Pendants to Sell
2565	Refrigerators for Sale
2566	Retirement Commu-
2567	ties & Board
2568	Swaps, Raffles
2569	Travel Information
2570	Storage/Garage Re-
2571	wanted for Rent
2572	Yachts
2573	Banquet Meeting R-
2574	Club Property for R-
2575	Restor./Vacation Pro-
2576	Law of the Grand
2577	Prepay Classification

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INSTITUTE WORKERS NEEDED
The United City Community Union #9 is accepting applications for staff in the areas of curriculum, secretaries (\$5.25/hour), janitors (\$5.25/hour), aides (\$5.50/hour). The salary in working schedules is \$5.25/hour. Interested applicants should send their letter and current resume to: United City Community Union, Personnel Department, 1000 North Dearborn, Room 100, Chicago, Illinois 60610. Application Office, 1947 Adams

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Door To
The Future**


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In Various Locations**

Assistant Managers \$30K to \$35K
Require two years of college or four
years management experience.
-Great Benefits

**Send Resume To: Regional Manager
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Breckenridge III, Mo. 63111
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
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SUBSTITUTE WORKERS NEEDED

The Granite City Community Unit School District #9 is accepting applications for substitute staff in the areas of custodians (\$6.00/hour), secretaries (\$5.70/hour), cafeteria workers (\$5.25/hour), and teacher aides (\$5.50/hour). These positions vary in working schedules and locations. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and current resume to Fred P. Schuman, Personnel Department, Board of Education Office, 1947 Adams, Granite City, Illinois 62040.

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In Various Locations

Assistant Managers \$40K to \$41K
Requires two years of college or four years
management experience.

-Great Benefits

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Breckenridge Hill, Mo. 63114
or Call Matt at 618-332-1150

An analog clock with a black frame and white face. The hour hand points to 7 and the minute hand points to 12. The numbers 1 through 12 are printed around the perimeter.

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our early start time.**
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Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Joyce Nichols Lewis

"DOING UP GIFTS"

BY FRANCES HANSEN

ACROSS

1 Prima ballerina

7 Summer top

13 Assailed on all sides

18 Bellowed

19 Nation's targets

20 Crusted

21 Meat dish

24 State divisions

25 Mrs. abroad

26 Rabbittike

27 Mahayana

28 Propaganda

29 Leo the Lion

31 Spraying device

35 Venetian

36 Corn collation

37 Nui: Easter Island

41 Yodanis

42 Grey or McCree

43 Gives the boot

44 Site of the first Olympics

45 More of the verse

51 Link

52 Toppotich

53 Peck

54 Sierra

55 Pyrenees

56 Populic

57 He'll give you a hand

59 Packaging unit

60 Cookin'

62 Rave

63 Leatherneck

64 Bronia and Dickson

65 Made changes

73 Gramona

74 Ario's

75 restaurant

76 Zulu warrior

77 keeping you up?

78 More of verse

82 Italian innkeeper

83 Hoy Fr. Jacius

84 Chevy, e.g.

85 First name in fashion

86 Cur up with a book

87 Craggy hill

88 Abzug with the hats

90 The Count of Monte...

92 Long March leader

93 "Ragin' 9"

94 "Norma..."

95 Reach

100 Did the "one's goal"

98 Ovid's omet

99 British style

104 End of the verse

106 Turkey tobe

108 "Because it's there"

110 mountaineer

111 Luke Falstaff

112 LeBiancs

113 Fashioned

114 "The Red"

2 Oz visitor

3 "Woke locale"

4 Whimie-remover

DOWN

1 "The Red"

2 Oz visitor

3 "Woke locale"

4 Whimie-remover

5 Washington

6 Crossing the Delaware

7 "Ragin' 9"

8 Height: Abbr.

9 Free up

10 Did the "one's goal"

11 Inward

12 In anatomy

13 Kind of companion

14 Caesar's reproof

15 Partner of polish

16 e. e. cummings

17 Place for a drive

18 Map abbrs.

19 Map abbrs.

20 Gredy

21 Layer

22 Small

23 Villages

24 Whistled

25 Rub the wrong way

26 Bypassed

27 Resigns from a job

28 Become

29 "Meat"

30 Cage occupant

31 Ballerina's

32 Look dance

33 Hoopie or domo

34 Furrow or groove

35 We had a whale of a time

36 Head of France?

37 Like a hooper

38 Offering at

39 Down

40 Investigate against

41 Irish patriot

42 Robert

43 Rivera or Velazquez

44 Pennsylvania

45 railroad town

46 Smidgen

47 Memorial

48 Fred

49 Old far

50 Month of

51 Singer Sumac

52 Long, long time

53 "We" having fun yet?

54 "Ys"

55 Flap

56 Flap

57 Flap

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2500 BUSINESS FOR SALE
NEWLY LISTED LAUNDRY IN WOOD RIVER. ESTATE HOME. 1000 sq. ft. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, full kitchen, large living room, fireplace, hardwood floors, central air, new carpet, new windows, new roof, new siding, new gutters, new downspouts, new driveway, new patio, new deck, new fence, new lawn, new shrubs, new flowers, new trees, new everything. Call 344-5450 or 344-5451.

2500 COMMERCIAL PROP. FOR RENT
COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE IN GRANITE CITY AREA. 800 to 1000 sq. ft. Ideal location. Call 344-5450 or 344-5451.

2500 OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT
NEW OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE IN GRANITE CITY AREA. 800 to 1000 sq. ft. Ideal location. Call 344-5450 or 344-5451.

2500 APARTMENTS/PLATS FURNISHED
2 BDRM 1 1/2 bath apartment. New kitchen, new bathroom, new carpet, new windows, new roof, new siding, new gutters, new downspouts, new driveway, new patio, new deck, new fence, new lawn, new shrubs, new flowers, new trees, new everything. Call 344-5450 or 344-5451.

2500 APTS/PLATS UNFURNISHED
2 BDRM 1 1/2 bath apartment. New kitchen, new bathroom, new carpet, new windows, new roof, new siding, new gutters, new downspouts, new driveway, new patio, new deck, new fence, new lawn, new shrubs, new flowers, new trees, new everything. Call 344-5450 or 344-5451.

2500 APT. FOR RENT
Modern 1 BR apt. 2200 Cleveland. Outside security door. Trash pickup, heat, water, stove, refrigerator furnished. References. No pet. \$300 + 1 mo deposit. 877-0221

2500 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT
2200 Cleveland. Outside security door. Trash pickup, heat, water, stove, refrigerator furnished. References. No pet. \$300 + 1 mo deposit. 877-0221

2500 2 BDRM 1 1/2 BATH APARTMENT
2200 Cleveland. Outside security door. Trash pickup, heat, water, stove, refrigerator furnished. References. No pet. \$300 + 1 mo deposit. 877-0221

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• 2 Bdr. Townhomes & Garden units from \$495
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• Heat included in Garden units
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2500 NORTH COUNTY UNFURNISHED
On Spacious Pleasant at Paddock Village! 2BR Gardens From \$450. Some with Garage. Fire-Proof. 355-0718 EHO

2500 Condominiums/Townhomes Rent
2 BDRM 1 1/2 bath townhouse. New kitchen, new bathroom, new carpet, new windows, new roof, new siding, new gutters, new downspouts, new driveway, new patio, new deck, new fence, new lawn, new shrubs, new flowers, new trees, new everything. Call 344-5450 or 344-5451.

2500 PARKVIEW RIDGE
2 BDRM 1 1/2 bath townhouse. New kitchen, new bathroom, new carpet, new windows, new roof, new siding, new gutters, new downspouts, new driveway, new patio, new deck, new fence, new lawn, new shrubs, new flowers, new trees, new everything. Call 344-5450 or 344-5451.

2500 DUPLEXES FOR RENT
2 BR DUPLEX Located in Troy, Lp. Yard, All Appliances, Very Nice, C/A, & Heat. 344-0316 or 345-0250 Ask for Ken or Susan

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FANTASTIC, beautiful two story home on a professionally landscaped corner lot. Side load 3 car garage. Two story entry foyer with open split staircase. LR & DR. Four bay windows on the main level. Edwardsville \$249,900 E0527 W. Wagner Shoffer

TRADITIONAL 2 story home with large master bath with separate tub and shower. Spacious kitchen with breakfast area. Convenient location. Glen Carbon \$147,000 E0688 Pat Schuetzenhofer

RANCH home with an open floor plan. Large kitchen, extra cabinets, great eating area open to the deck and pool. Fenced and private backyard. Finished basement with 4th bedroom. Glen Carbon \$121,000 E0697 L. Shoffer/W. Wagner

FABULOUS spacious ranch with open floor plan on 2 acres. 2 car garage, plus additional 2 car detached garage & workshop. Must see to appreciate the beauty of this home. Pontoon Beach \$219,900 E0568 C. Miller/J. Lux

BEAUTIFUL home in a great location. All large rooms. Fully equipped kitchen. Deck off kitchen. Fireplace in family room. Lots of storage. Granite City \$122,900 E0695 Debbie Brimer

NICE 2 bedroom brick home with fireplace. 2 car garage, full basement. Just 1/2 block from Wilson Park. Granite City \$54,900 E0685 Chris Miller/Judine Lux

2 STORY home with a stone fireplace, the living room, above ground pool, fenced yard and many other features. To this home you must see. Granite City \$81,900 E0683 Judine Lux/Christine Miller

IMMACULATE 3 bedroom, 3 baths. Desirable location in Collinswood. Wooded without basement. Gas fireplace. Lovely home you must see. Collinsville \$146,900 E0661 Karen Sether

3226 Namooki Road Granite City, IL 62040 876-7510 • 800-515-8401. 3049 Godfrey Road Godfrey, IL 62035 466-1513

1324 Road Edwardsville, IL 62025 656-9011 • 800-882-3934. 58 Airport Plaza Bethalto, IL 62010 377-2112

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
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SPACIOUS home huge lot. First floor laundry. Kitchen is land with cooktop and abundant cabinet space. Ceiling fans throughout. Scenic in porch. New central air, furnace and water heater 5 years old. 1st floor bathroom. 97 E4014

REDUCED!! You'll really feel at home when you see this well-kept, bright and spacious 3 bedroom home. New central air, full basement, Madison location. LG338

CHARMING 2 BEDROOM with dining room and remodeled kitchen. New central air, full basement. Newer carpet. Basement and large garage. Priced in the 30's. LG501

DARLING 2 BEDROOM home with full kitchen, w/w carpeting, both has been recently remodeled. Lovely kitchen cabinets plus stove and refrigerator stay. Reasonably priced. LG609

LOVELY 2 BEDROOM bungalow close to army depot and Hwy 3 with central air, dining room, nice size kitchen - partial basement with 2 car garage. LG812

EVERYTHING FOR FINE LIVING! 4 BDRM 2 1/2 story on wooded walk-out lot in Gettysburg East. 9' main floor walls, L-shaped covered front porch, master suite with whirlpool tub. Very open living areas with views of the trees. E4160

SPACIOUS 4 BR RANCH conveniently located off Hwy 159 and I-270. Featuring formal dining room, open floor plan off kitchen, breakfast nook and family room. 1st floor, open spacious master suite w/bay window & luxury bath. Full basement with 2 car garage. E4160

LOVELY 2 bedroom could be 3 bedroom - has lg. dining room, nice size kitchen - partial basement with 2 car garage. E4160

INVESTORS! This 2 bedroom ranchers for \$400 mo. All new floor coverings, nice kitchen cabinets. A big front lawn, one car garage, mid 20's. Call for more info. LG751

TWO FOR ONE SALE! 2 houses on 1/2 acre. 1st house has 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, basement, garage, new carpet, new kitchen, new appliances. 2nd house has 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, basement, garage, new carpet, new kitchen, new appliances. Great buy! Very nice. LG1001

ABRAMS REALTY
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Ralph Abrams Broker 877-1900
Jerry Abrams PDR 728-0515
Mike Abrams 728-0540
Teresa Day PDR 738-2038

NEW LISTING Beautiful home on large corner lot. 3 bedrooms, laundry room, attached garage, freshly painted, new roof, new carpets, nearly 1300 sq. ft. Stone exterior. A must see. 408 Park, South Roxana. A-31

NEW LISTING Cute and cozy 2 bedroom home with attached carport. Lovely kitchen, new carpeting, new windows, new roof, new siding, new gutters, new downspouts, new driveway, new patio, new deck, new fence, new lawn, new shrubs, new flowers, new trees, new everything. Call 344-5450 or 344-5451.

LARGE HOME, SMALL PRICE. Very nice brick home with formal dining room, 5 main level bedrooms and 3 lower level bedrooms. Enclosed front porch, 1 1/2 bathrooms and privacy fence. Only \$23,000. A-29

A GREAT BUY FOR THE FAMILY THAT NEEDS 4 BEDROOMS!! This 2 story home located a short distance from Wilson Park has been remodeled and is waiting for you to live in and enjoy. Under \$40,000. A-12

PERFECT FOR THE NEWLYWEDS. Adorable 4 room home with full basement with workshop, really oversized garage, corner lot. Drive by 2628 Sheridan and call for an appointment to see. A-24

PERFECT FOR BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL OFFICE. Large 2 story home with 6 rooms, 2 full bathrooms and garage large enough to hold 2 cars. Would be great family home or 2-family home. Not a drive-by. A-18

THE FRIENDSHIP OF THOSE WE SERVE IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR BUSINESS. WISHING YOU A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON!! A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!!

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HAPPY AS A LARK LIVE IN THE PARK, 1 1/2 STORY, HARDWOOD FLOORS, FIREPLACE

NICE NEIGHBORHOOD, 1 BR, FINISHED BASEMENT, COVERED PATIO, HOME WARRANTY, PRICED TO SELL IN THE 2000's
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CR2556 - EVERYTHING NEW NEW INTERIOR. Roof, siding, new windows, new water heater, gutters, soffits & fascia all new! Central air, furnace, cabinets, carpet & vinyl. All new! New carpet, new doors, new windows, new frame. It is all new. Completely new sewer system! 97' Huge master bedroom suite with large walk in closet & 3/4 bath. 1st floor laundry. 12x20 deep garage. A Must see!!

CR3556 EXCELLENT INVESTMENT/REHAB/ PROFIT/ POTENTIAL. PRICED TO SELL AT JUST \$135,500.
CR2991 VERY LARGE FENCED IN YARD. 26X28 DETACHED GARAGE. This home features 2 bedrooms, nice living room, dining room, newer kitchen and bathroom. Bank foreclosure priced to sell at \$17,000!!

CR8421 - WE HAVE ANOTHER EXCELLENT FIXER UPPER PRICED TO SELL AT JUST \$18,000!! CALL FOR ALL THE DETAILS!
CR8921 - ALL ORIGINAL WOODWORK in this very pure starter home. Features living room, dining room, 12 bedrooms, full home with family room and privacy fenced backyard. The interior is decorated very nicely with burgundy and blue color scheme. New carpet, new windows, new doors, new frame. It is all new. Completely new sewer system! 97' Huge master bedroom suite with large walk in closet & 3/4 bath. 1st floor laundry. 12x20 deep garage. A Must see!!

CR3500 - BUILDING LOT. EXCELLENT LOCATION. MINUTES FROM INTERSTATES AND GATEWAY INT'L. SPEEDWAY. High traffic count.
CR4597 - GREAT COMMERCIAL LOCATION WITH HIGH TRAFFIC COUNT JUST OVER AN ACRE. Located on Hwy 203. Close to Interstates and Gateway Int'l. Speedway. Property is commercial (ON HWY 203) and residential (ON HWY 203).

CR5924 - PERFECT STARTER HOME! JUST REDUCED THE PRICE. 2 bedroom, walk in closets, 2 car garage, fenced yard. Home features all large rooms, fireplace, and close to everything.
CR5985 - JUST REDUCED PRICE. BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED 3 BEDROOM HOME. LARGE ROOMS, COMPLETE NEW KITCHEN W/NEW appliances, breakfast room off kitchen, mud room w/bay window, and sun room. Great location! Low price! Marble entry foyer. Built-in grill in family room. Secluded wooded lot.

FEATURED HOMES
CR1019 - LOW-DOWN PAYMENT, LOW MONTHLY PAYMENTS & GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD. The (3) bedroom home is a great starter home. Remodeled kitchen with lots of oak cabinets, new carpet, new windows, new doors, new frame. It is all new. Completely new sewer system! 97' Huge master bedroom suite with large walk in closet & 3/4 bath. 1st floor laundry. 12x20 deep garage. A Must see!!

CR1011 - BEDROOM HOME THAT THE OWNER WILL TAKE OFFERS. OWNER MUST SELL! Beautiful 2-story home, 1 1/2 blocks from the park. Very well cared for home. 4th, 5th or 6th bedroom in basement. Many, many updates. Roof, kitchen with lots of cabinets. Reduced \$74,500.

CR2235 - STEP RIGHT UP! HURRY! THIS IMMACULATE 2 BEDROOM WON'T LAST LONG. Features a spacious kitchen, full basement (partially finished) & mud room. Freshly painted and all new flooring makes it easy to move right in! Just a super clean home for just \$42,900.

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Landmark Realty, Inc.

NEW LISTINGS

BRICK DUPLEX, 2 bedroom on each side, patio door off of kitchen, needs some TLC. LG421

SPACIOUS 14X15 LIVING ROOM, 15x14 master bedroom, nice wood cabinets in the eat-in kitchen. Priced in low \$20's. Call for details. LG244

BUY DON'T RENT: Payment less than rent on this nice 3 bedroom home with basement and fenced rear yard. New roof and new w/w carpeting thru-out. Just move in and start owning your own home. LG604

REDUCED!! You'll really feel at home when you see this well-kept, bright and spacious 3 bedroom home. New central air, full basement, Madison location. LG338

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PRICED BELOW APPRAISAL! 3 bedroom brick on quiet street. Finished basement, very private back yard. Don't miss this exceptional buy! LG272

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